

yui sakuma

6

complex age



Complex age
Yui sakuma

C O N T E N T S

C o m p l e x a g e

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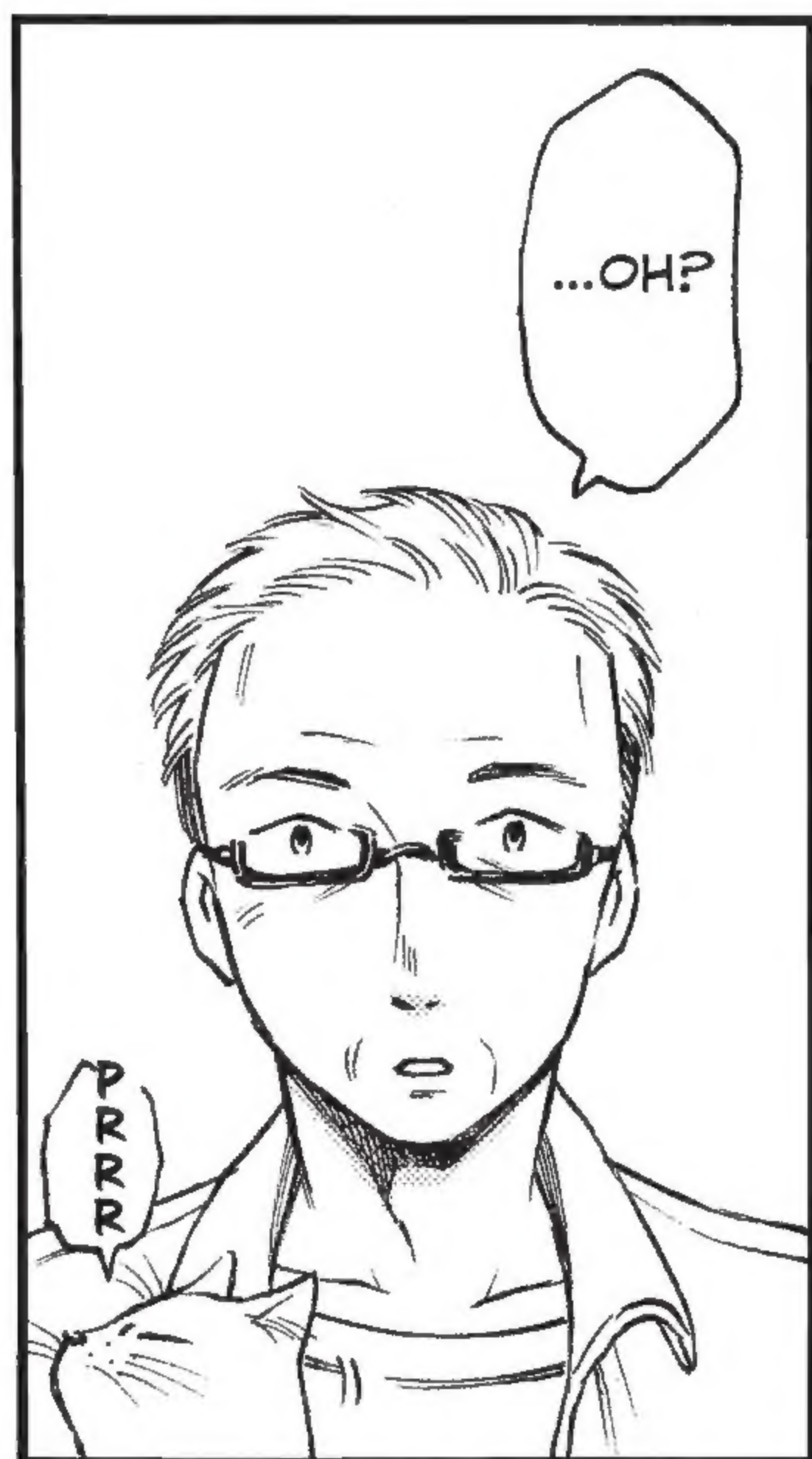
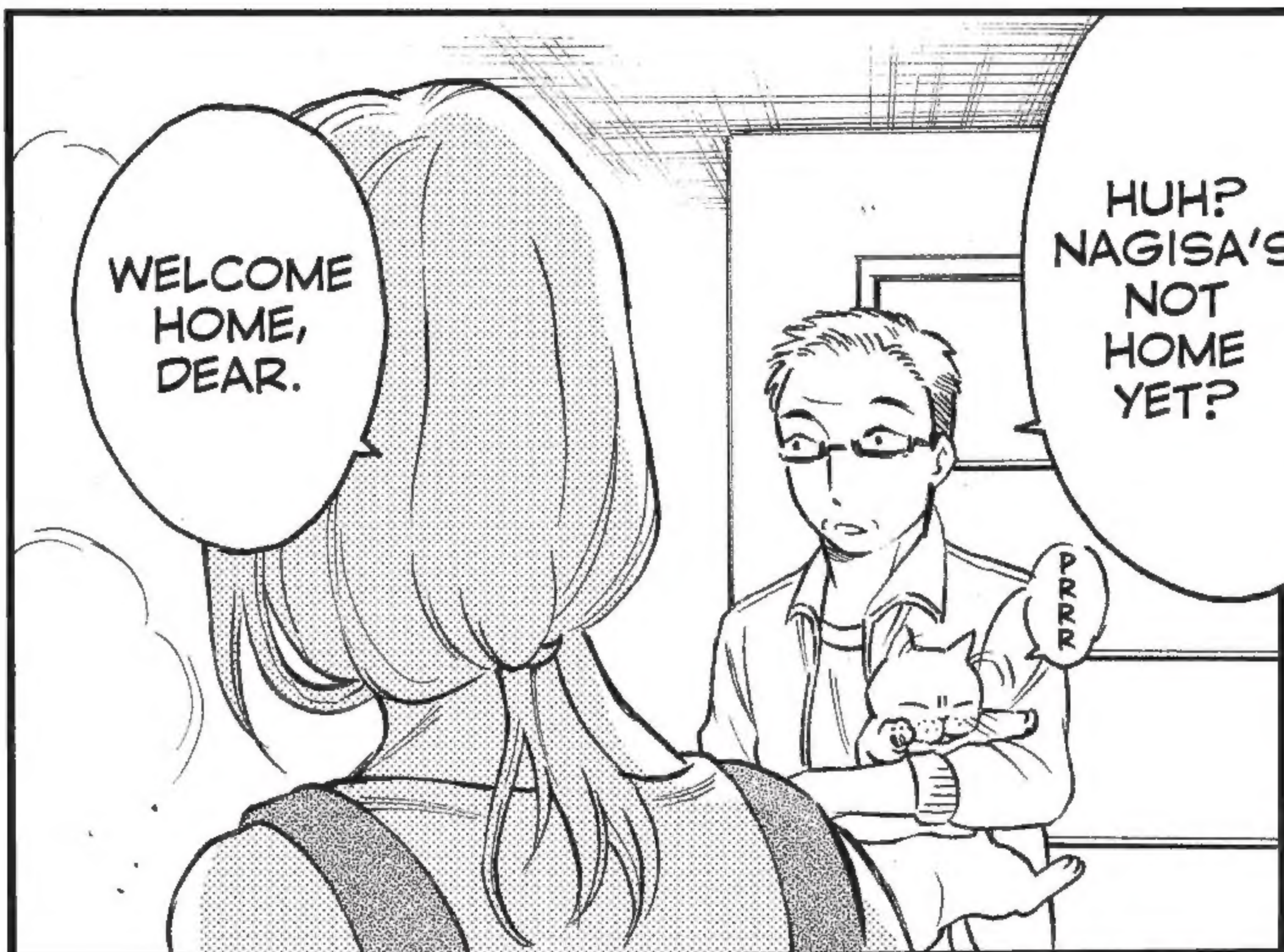
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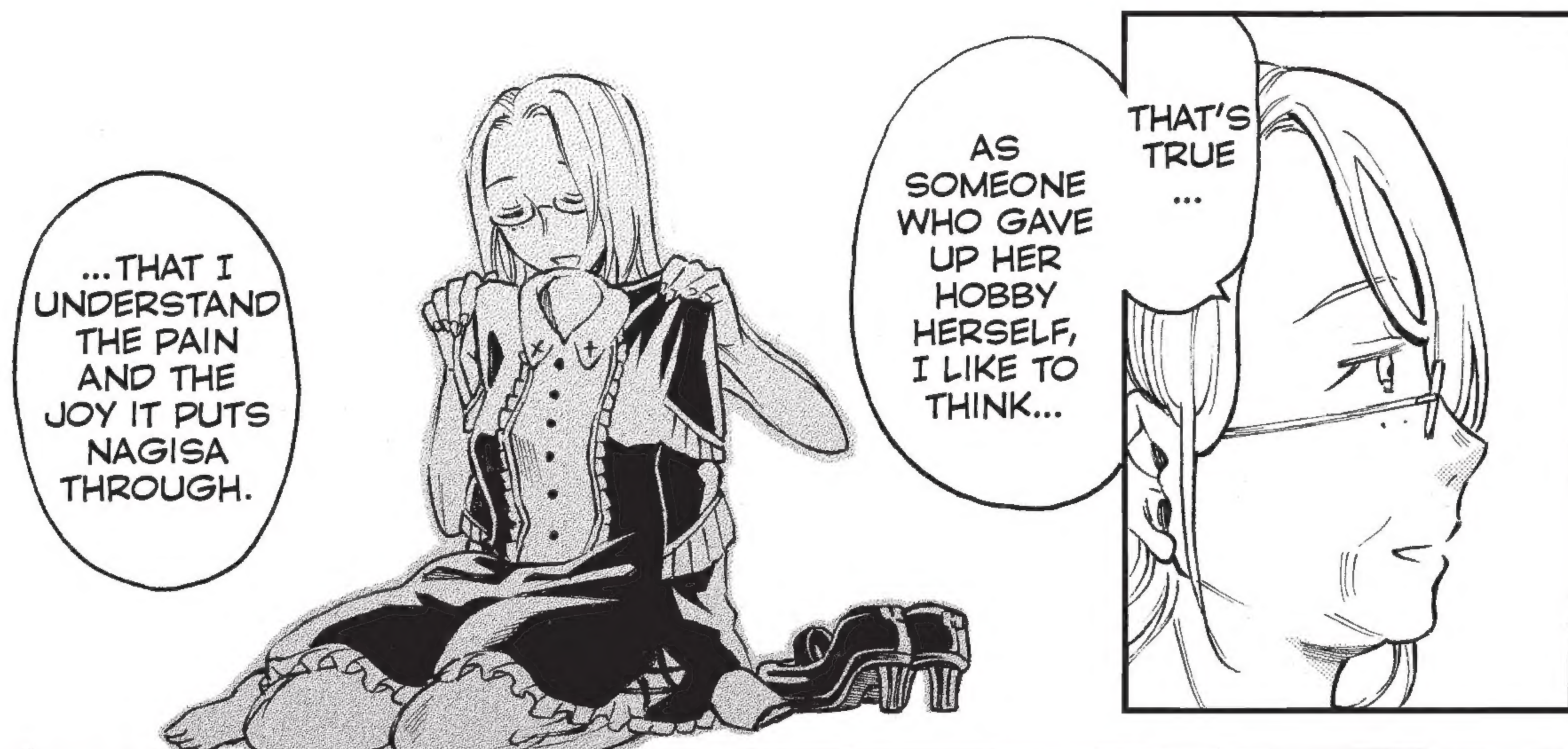
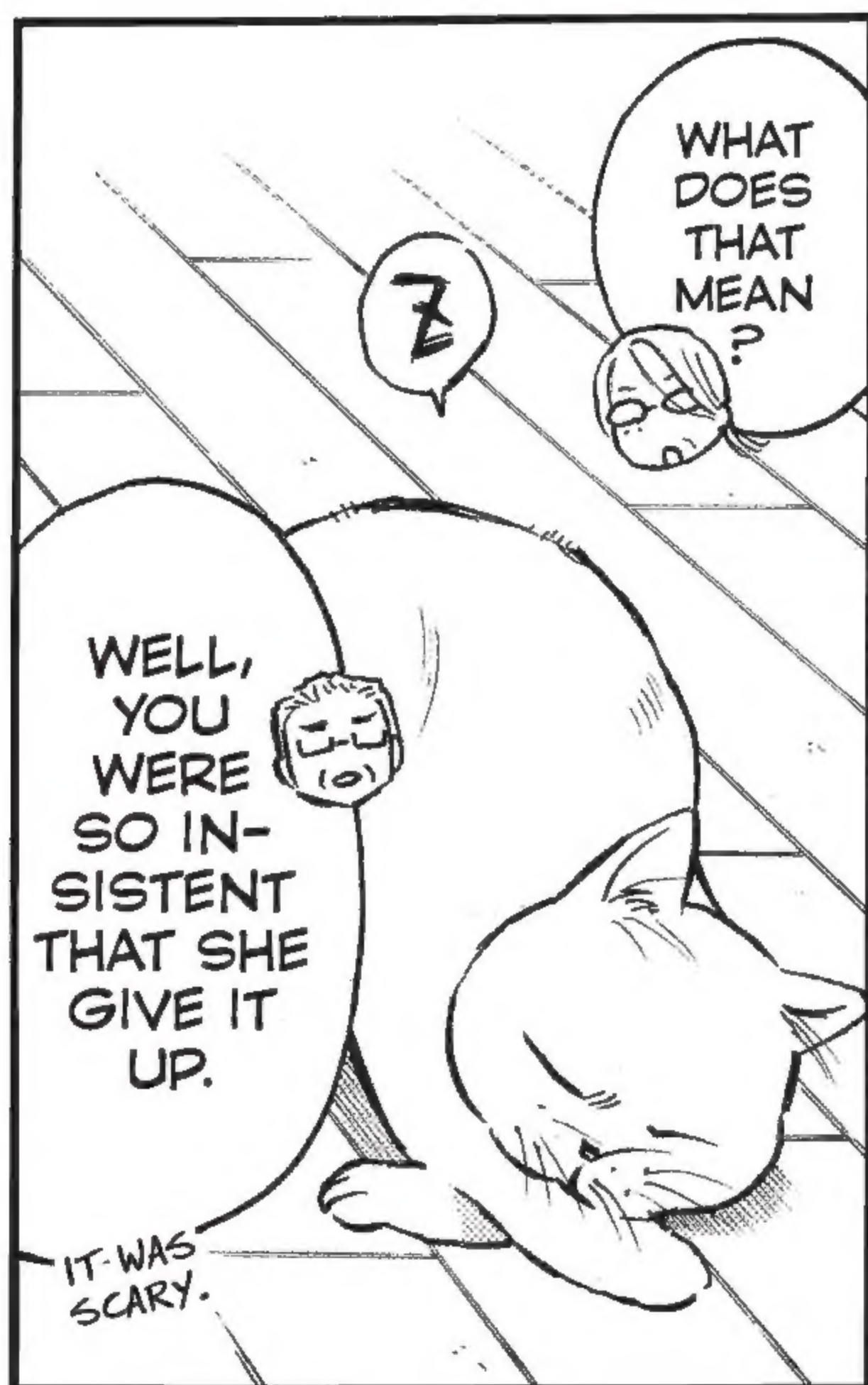
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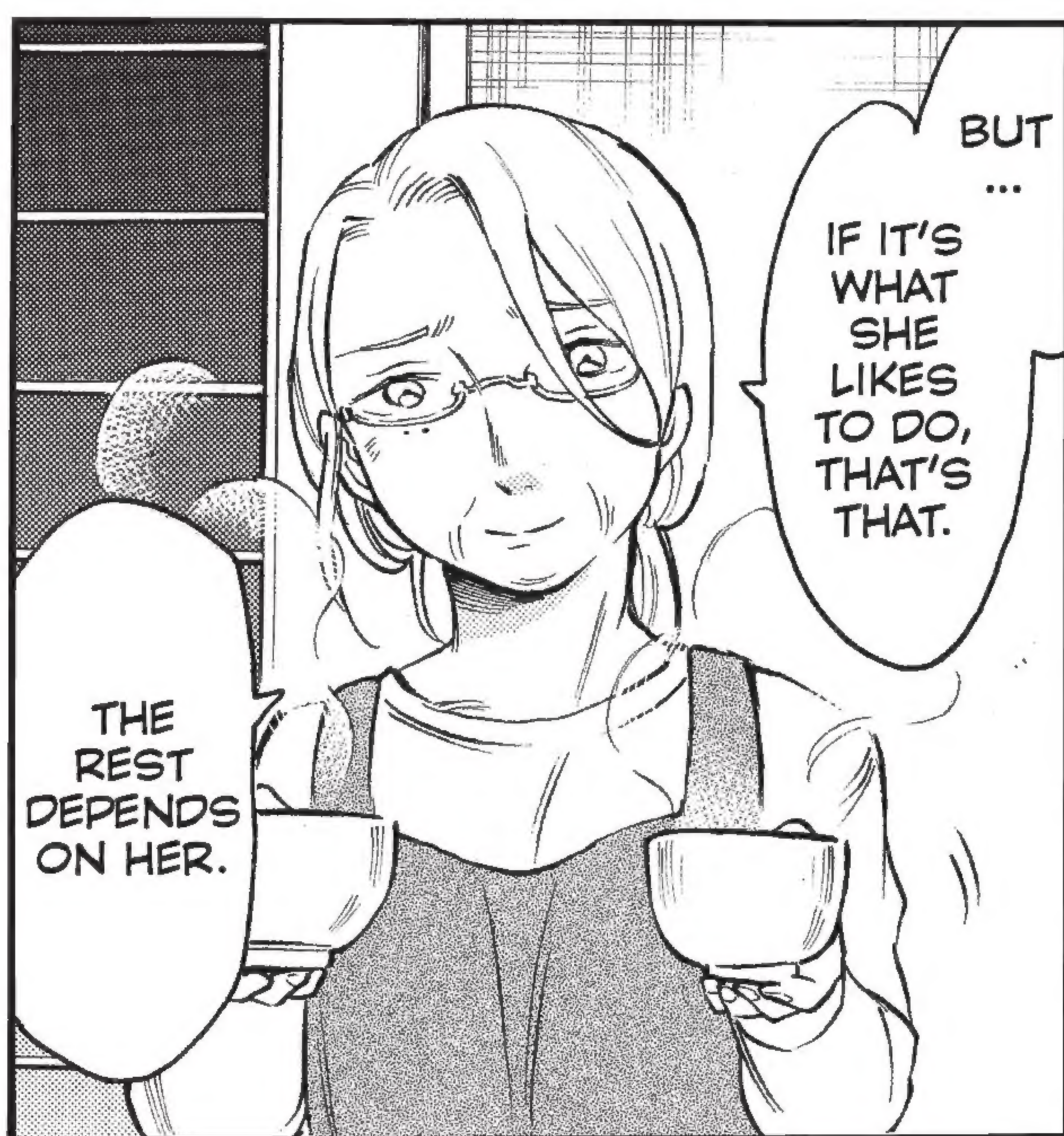
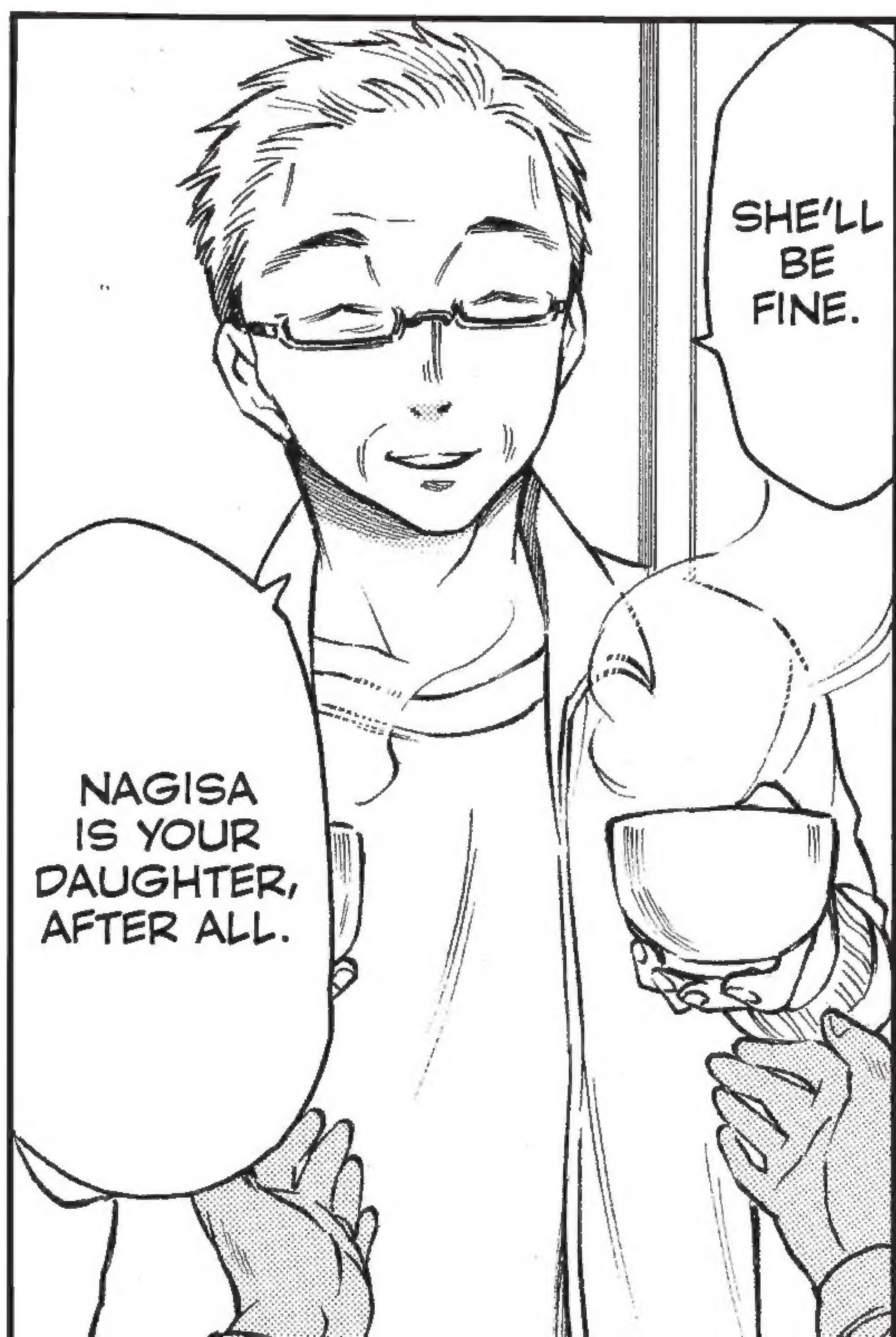
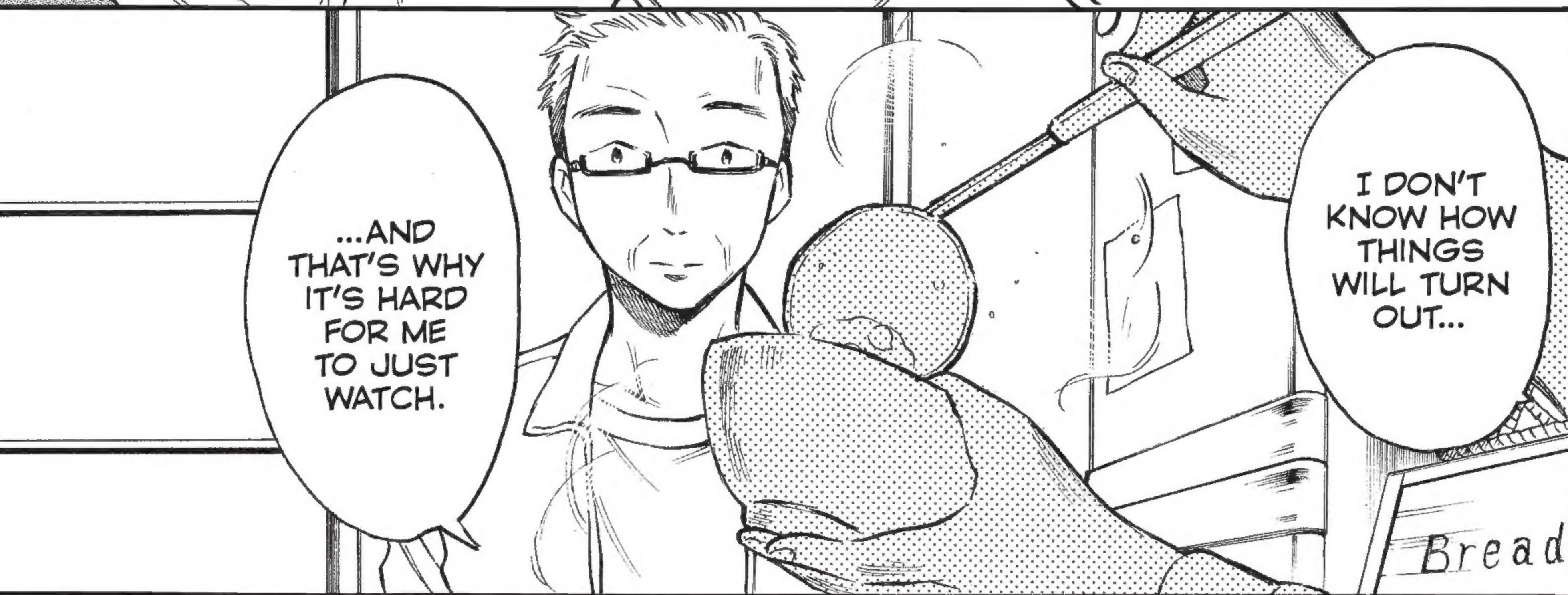
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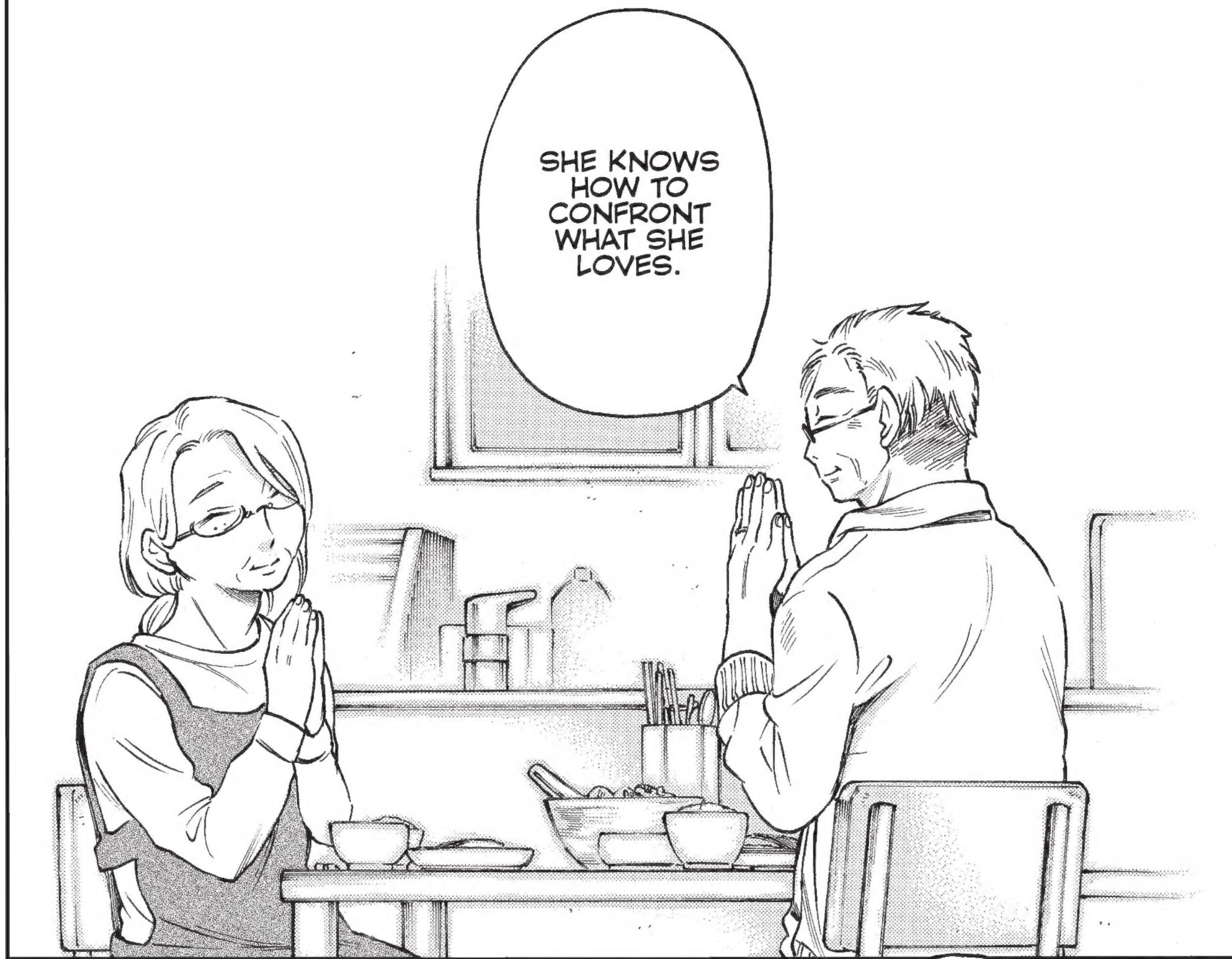
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NAGI-SA...
I PRESUME?

LOOK HOW
YOU'VE
GROWN!

...

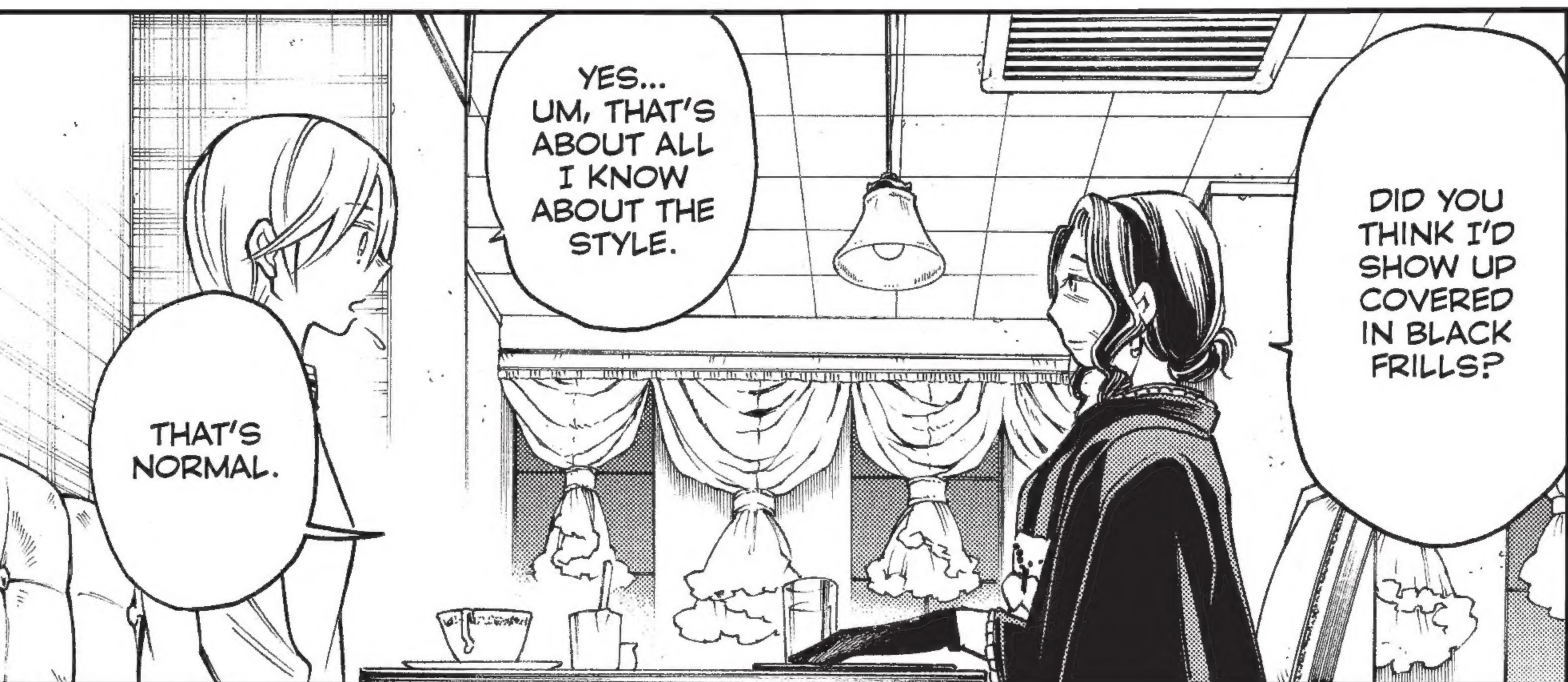
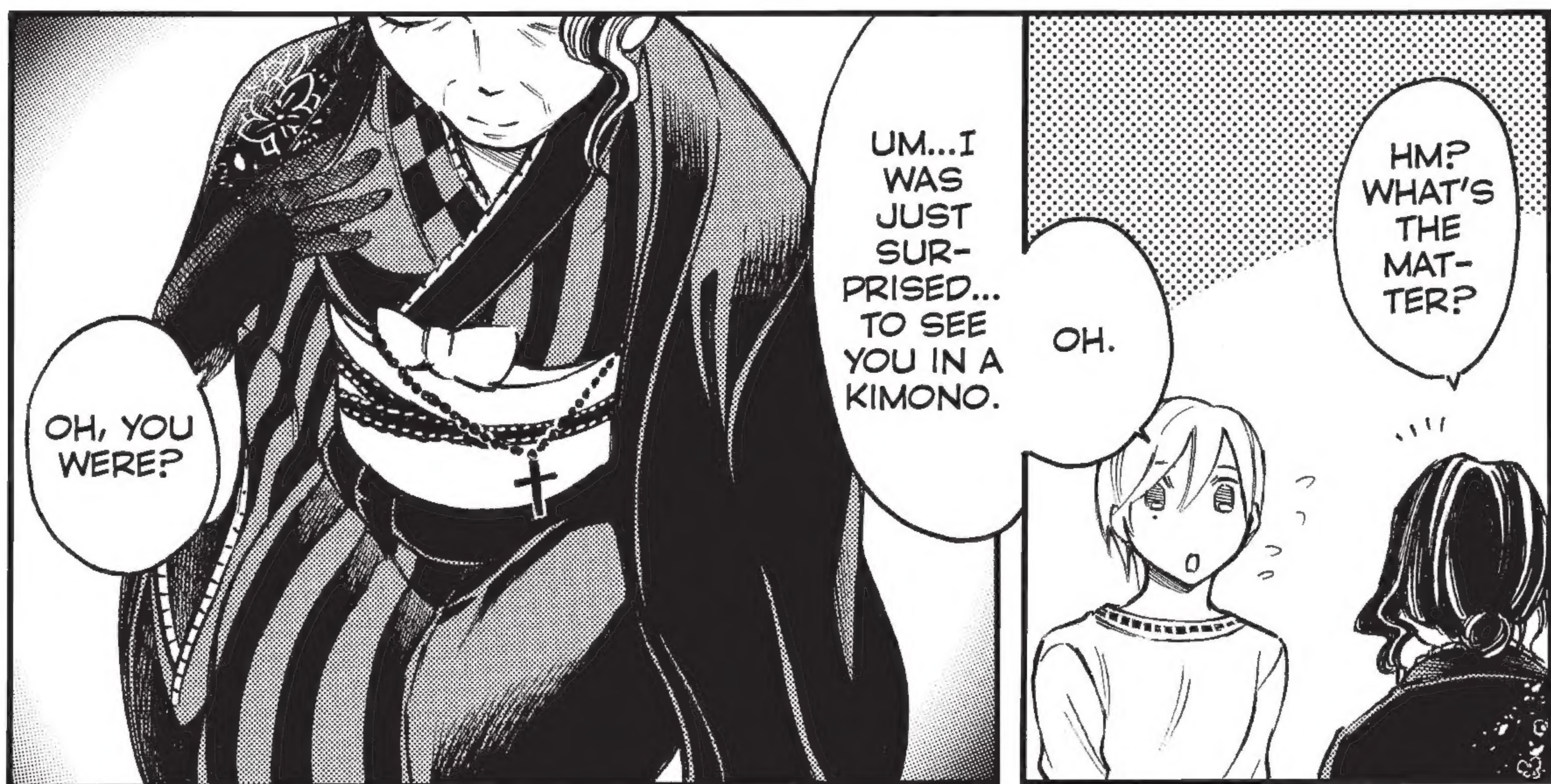
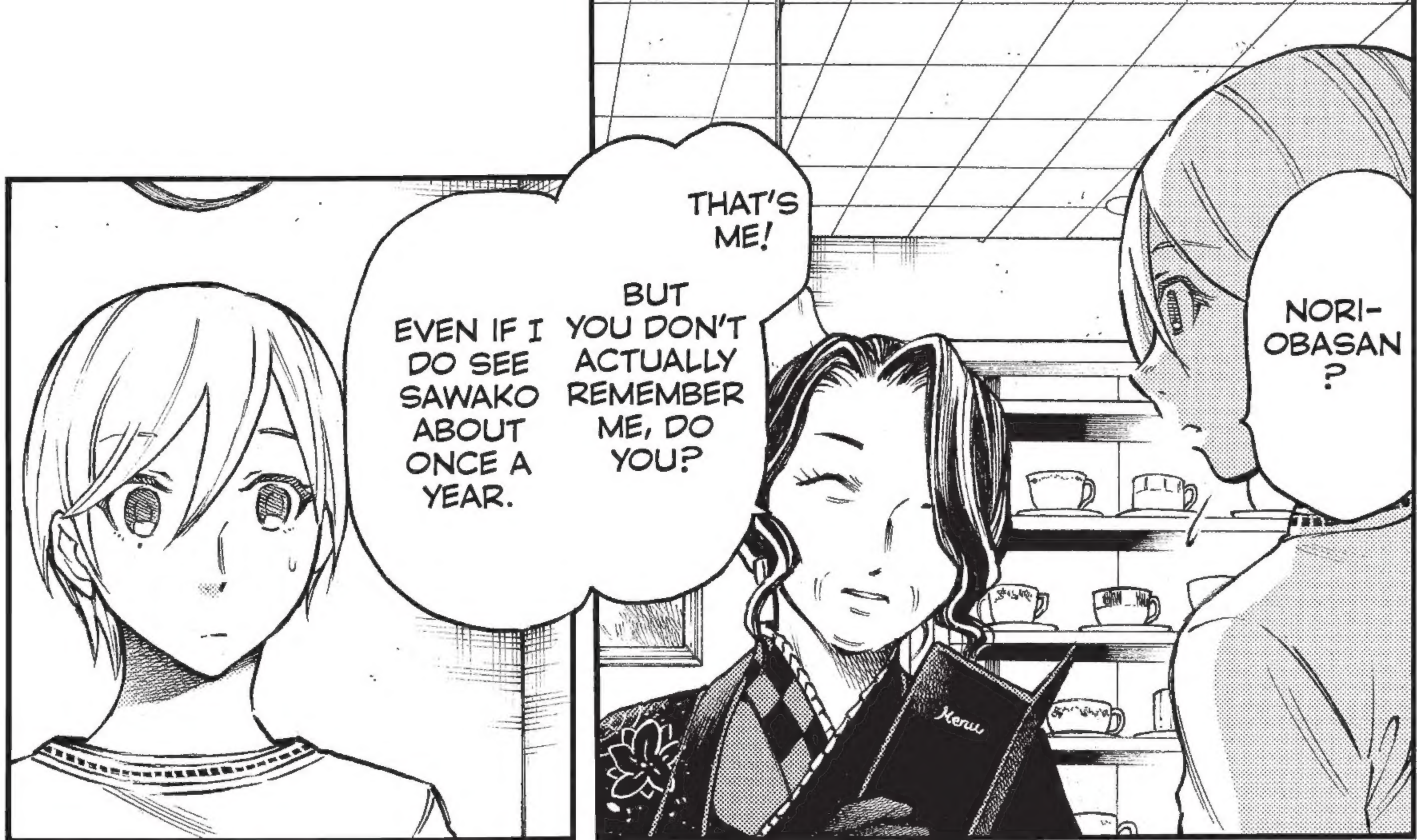
UH...
YES,
MA'AM.
U
M
M
M.

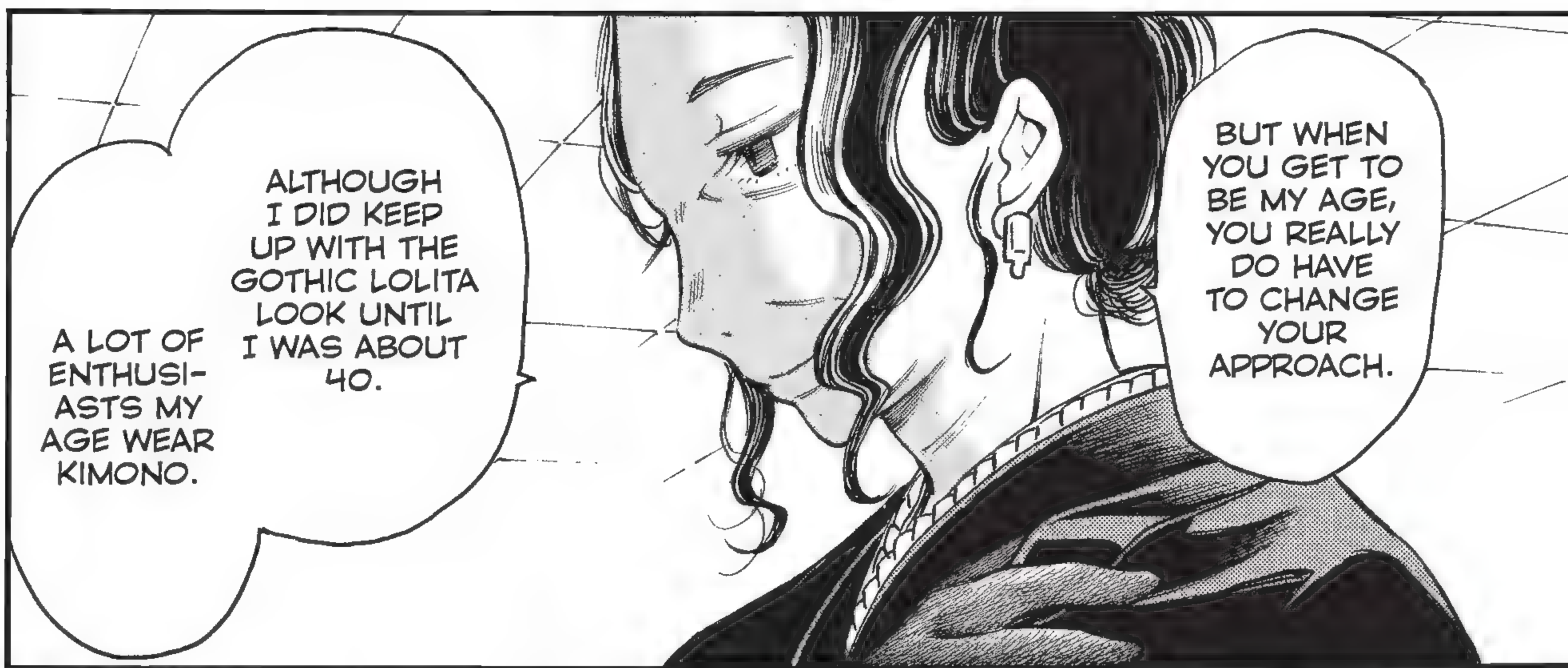
GASP

I KNEW
YOU IN-
STANTLY.

...LOOK
JUST LIKE
SAWAKO.

YOU
...

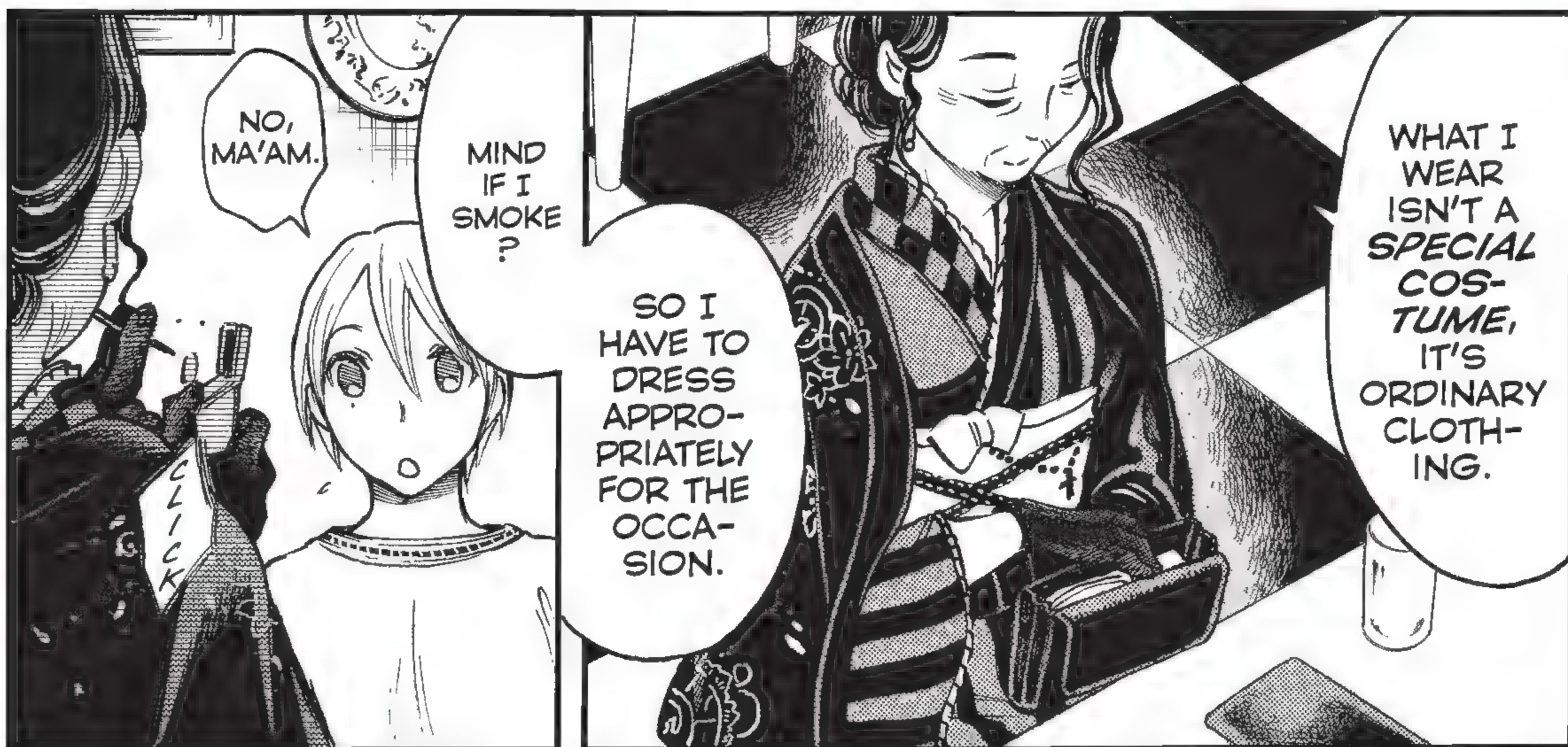




A LOT OF ENTHUSIASTS MY AGE WEAR KIMONO.

ALTHOUGH I DID KEEP UP WITH THE GOTHIC LOLITA LOOK UNTIL I WAS ABOUT 40.

BUT WHEN YOU GET TO BE MY AGE, YOU REALLY DO HAVE TO CHANGE YOUR APPROACH.



NO, MA'AM.

MIND IF I SMOKE?

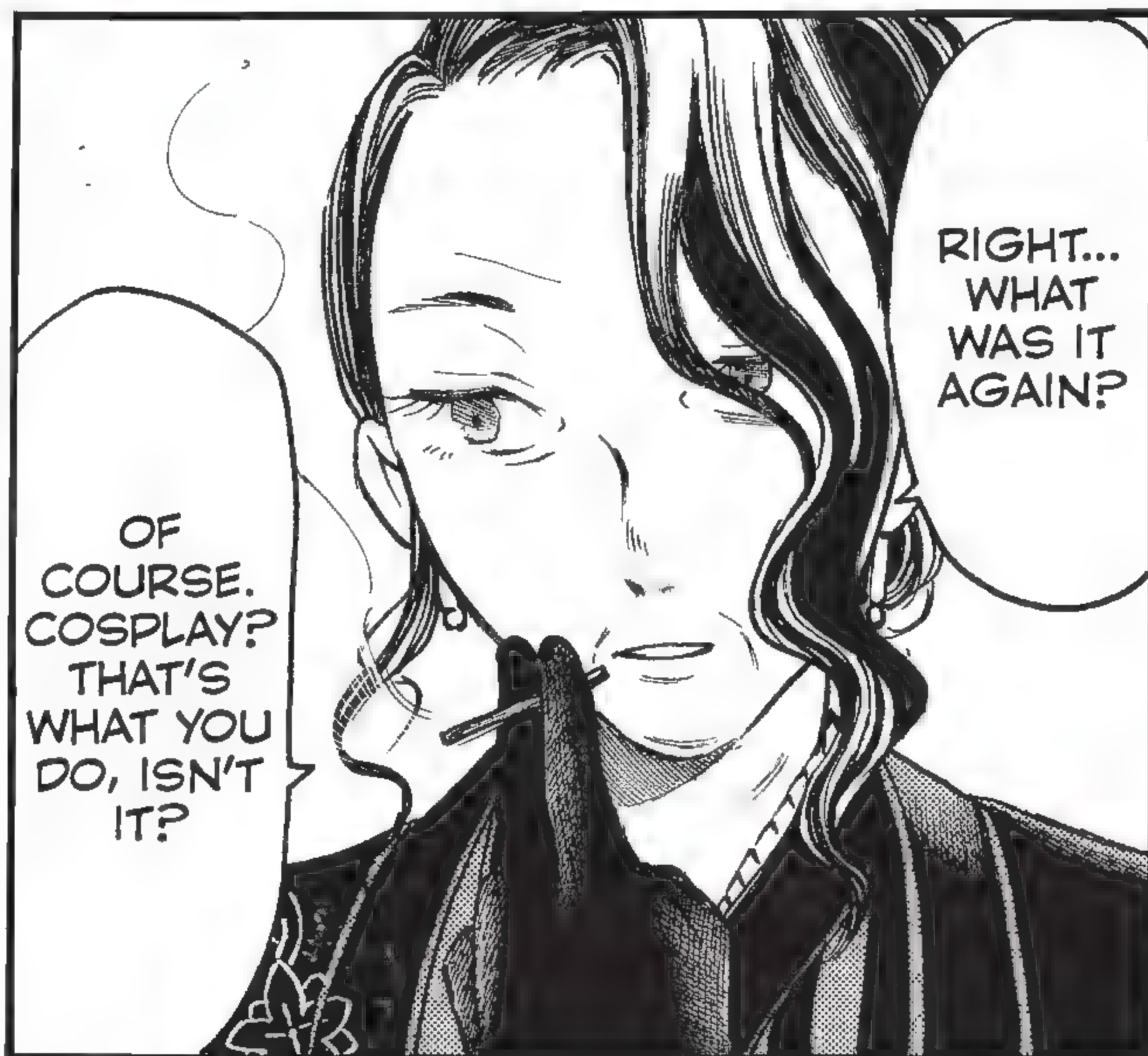
SO I HAVE TO DRESS APPROPRIATELY FOR THE OCCASION.

WHAT I WEAR ISN'T A SPECIAL COSTUME, IT'S ORDINARY CLOTHING.



YES, SHE TOLD ME A BIT.

THAT'S RIGHT. DID YOU HEAR THAT FROM MOM... UM, MY MOTHER?



OF COURSE. COSPLAY? THAT'S WHAT YOU DO, ISN'T IT?

RIGHT... WHAT WAS IT AGAIN?



THEY SELL THEM? WELL, WELL...WE DO LIVE IN AN AGE OF CONVENIENCE.

BUT THESE DAYS, THERE ARE PLACES THAT SELL COSTUMES FOR CHEAP.

I MAKE MY OWN.

AND YOU MAKE THOSE YOURSELF, TOO, RIGHT?



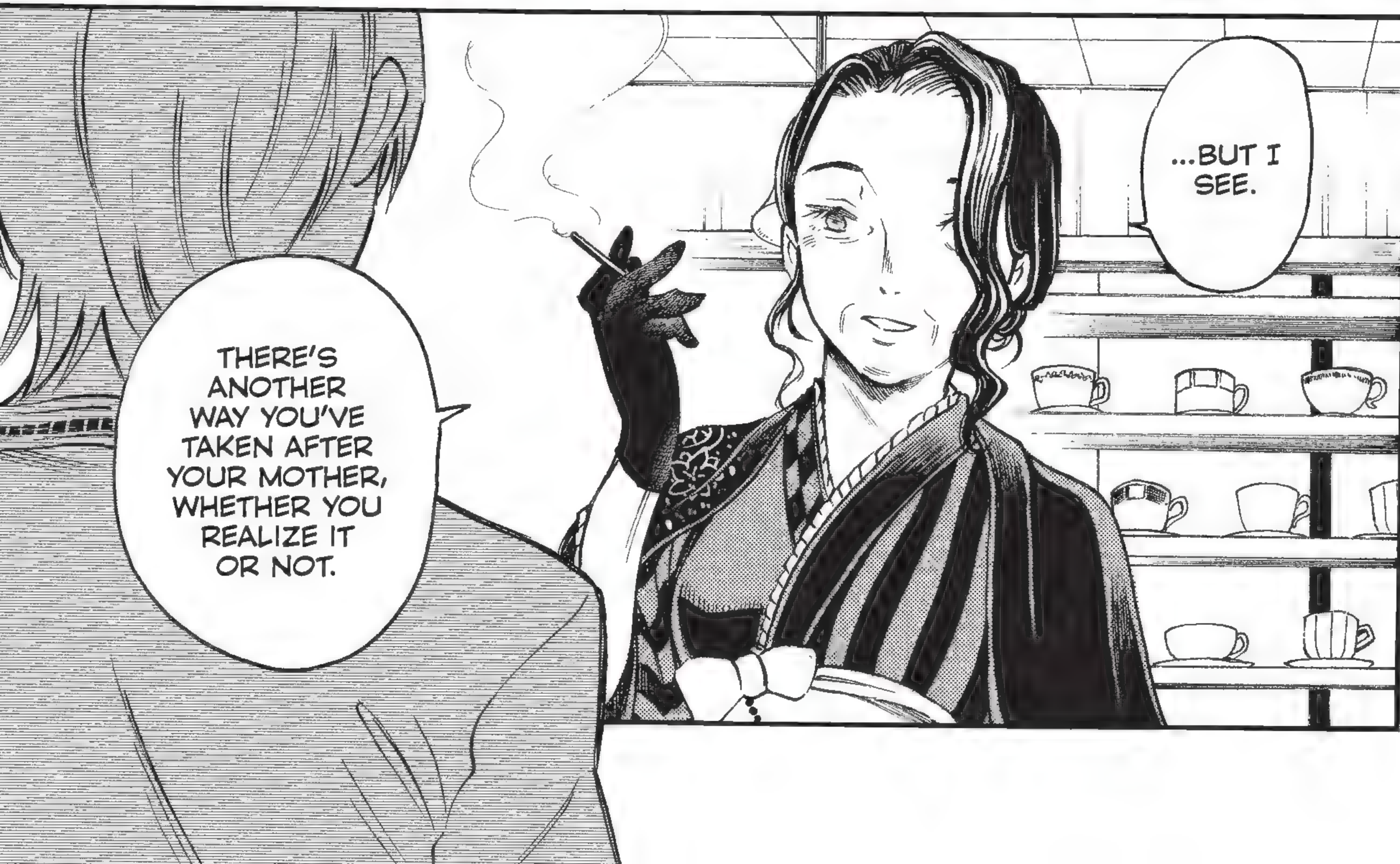
...I WOULDN'T HAVE THE PLEASURE OF REMAKING KIMONOS.

BUT IF NOT FOR THAT...

IF WE WANTED ONE, WE WOULD USUALLY MAKE IT OURSELVES.

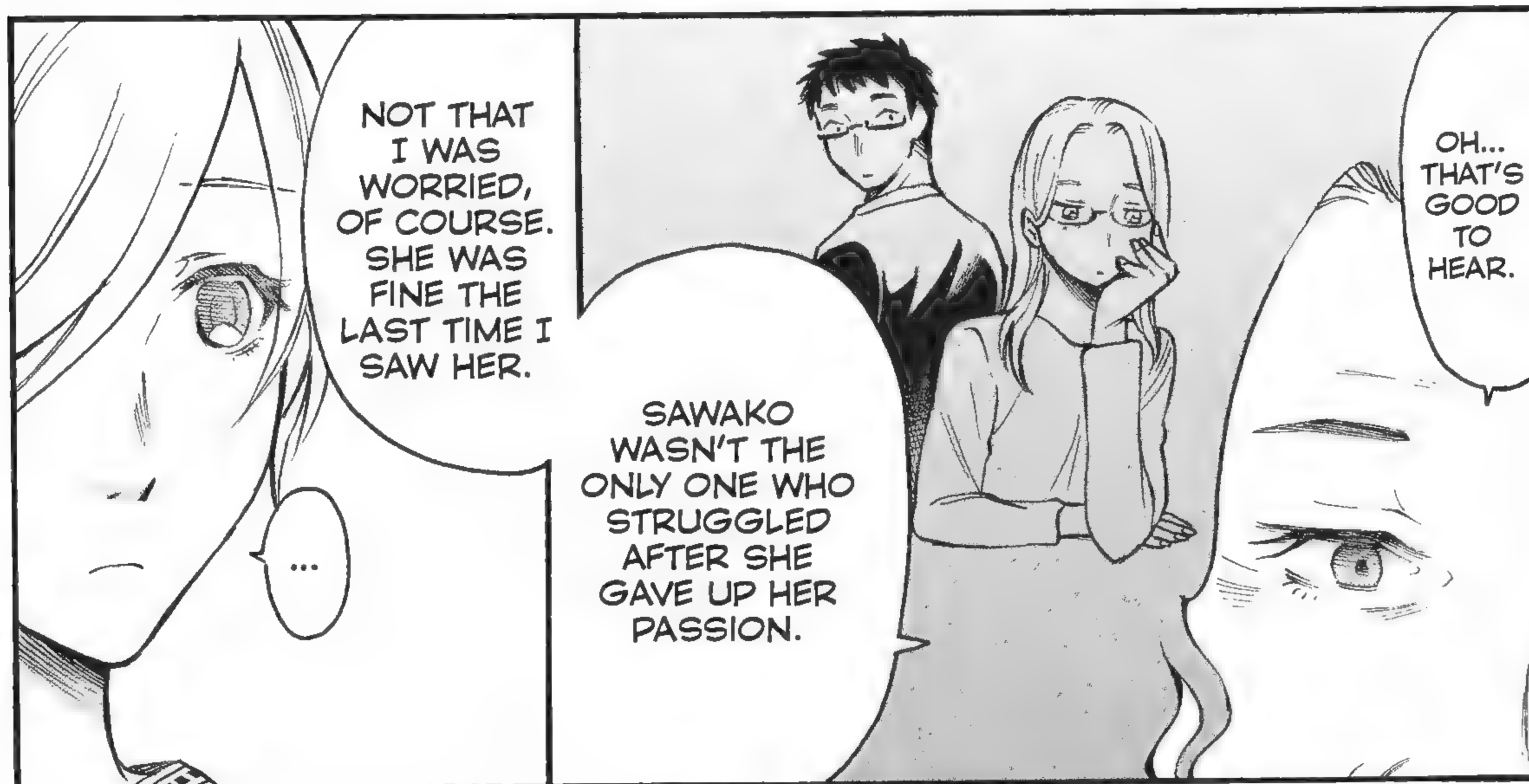


WHEN WE WERE YOUR AGE, THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS AN AFFORDABLE LOLITA DRESS OF ANY KIND.



THERE'S ANOTHER WAY YOU'VE TAKEN AFTER YOUR MOTHER, WHETHER YOU REALIZE IT OR NOT.

...BUT I SEE.





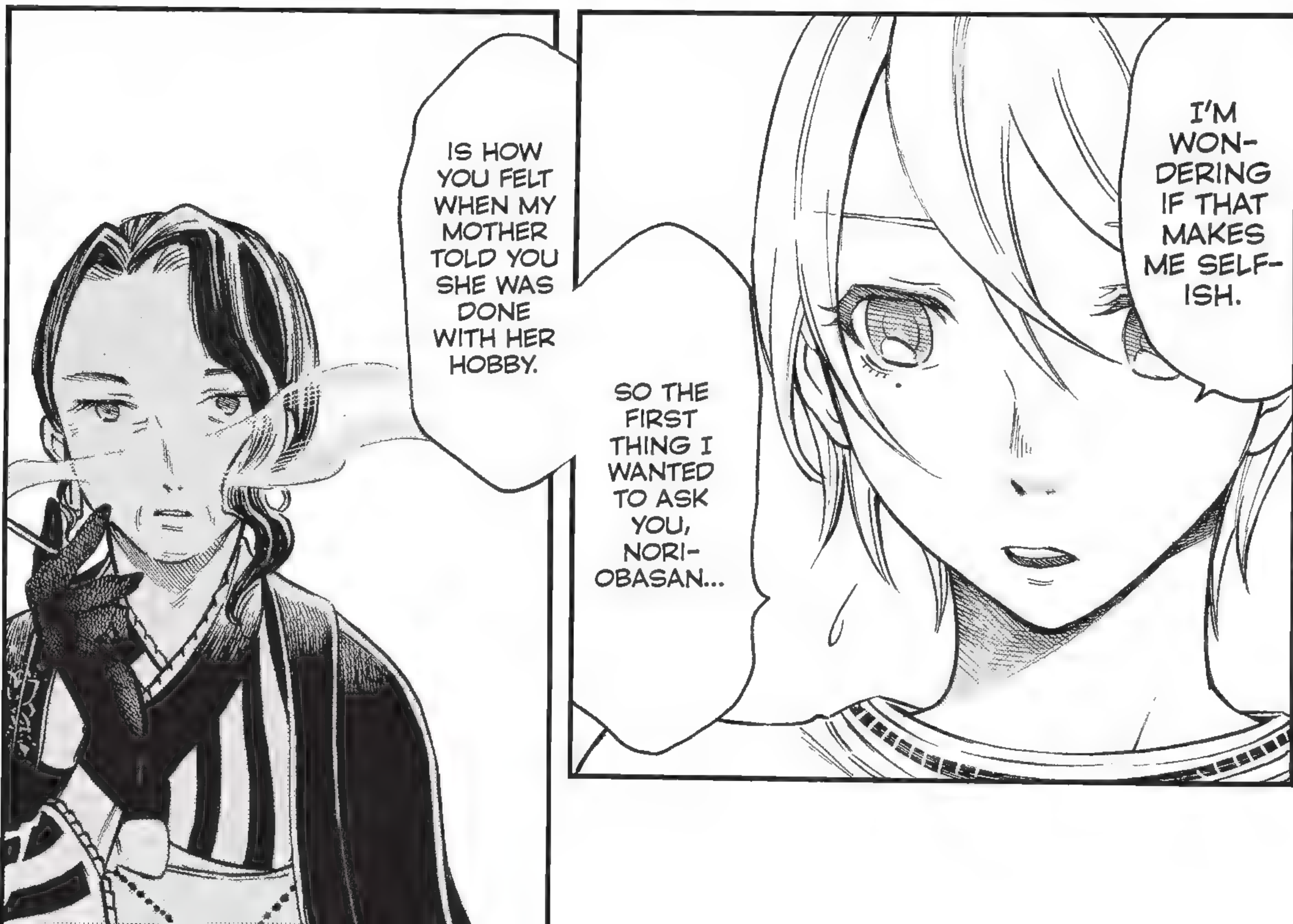
...BUT MY
FRIEND
GAVE UP
COSPLAY
THE OTHER
DAY...

UM...MAYBE
MY MOTHER
TOLD YOU...



BUT IT STILL
MAKES ME
LONELY...
AND SAD.

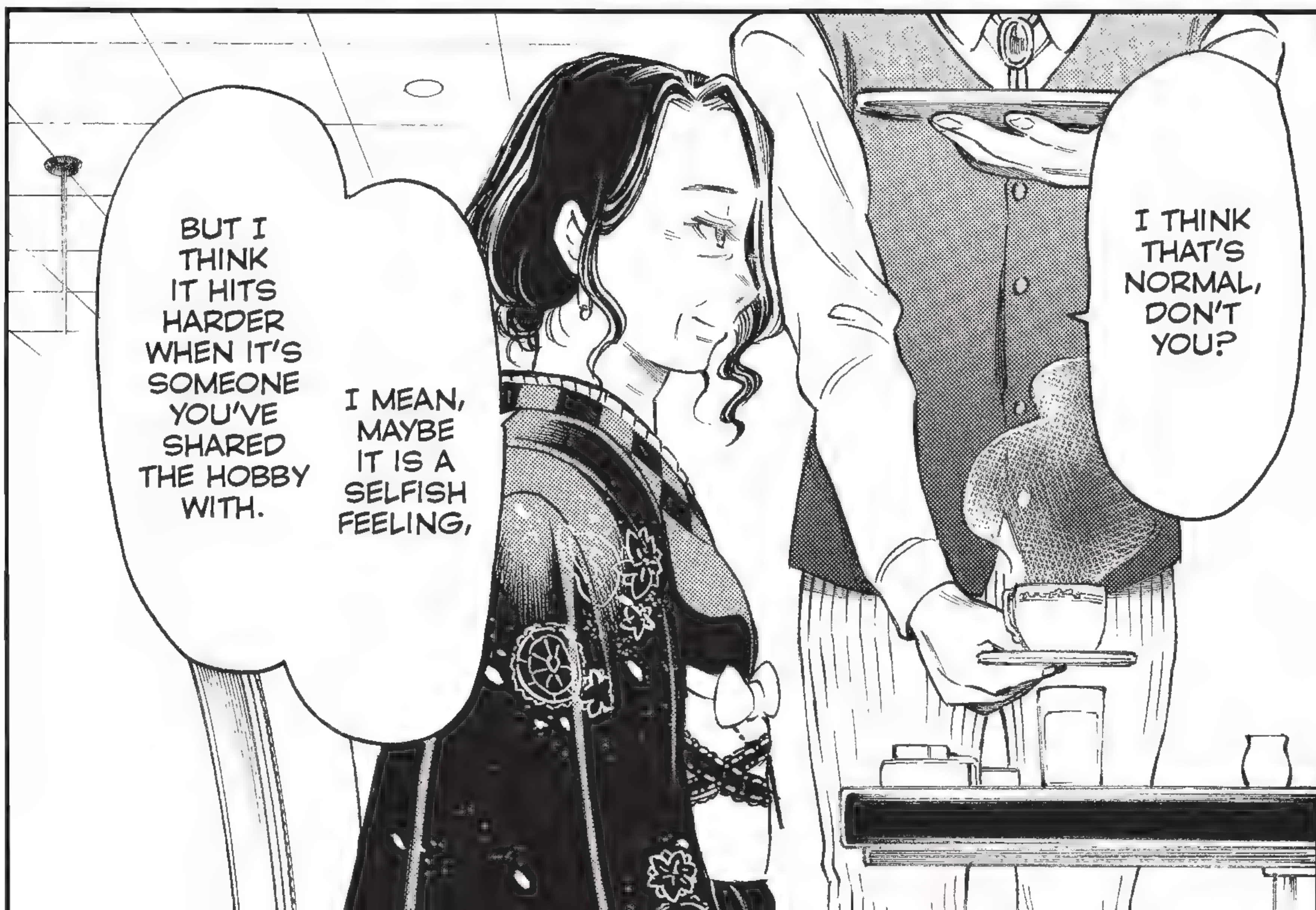
IT'S JUST
A HOBBY...
SO I KNOW
EVERYONE IS
FREE TO QUIT
WHENEVER
THEY WANT.

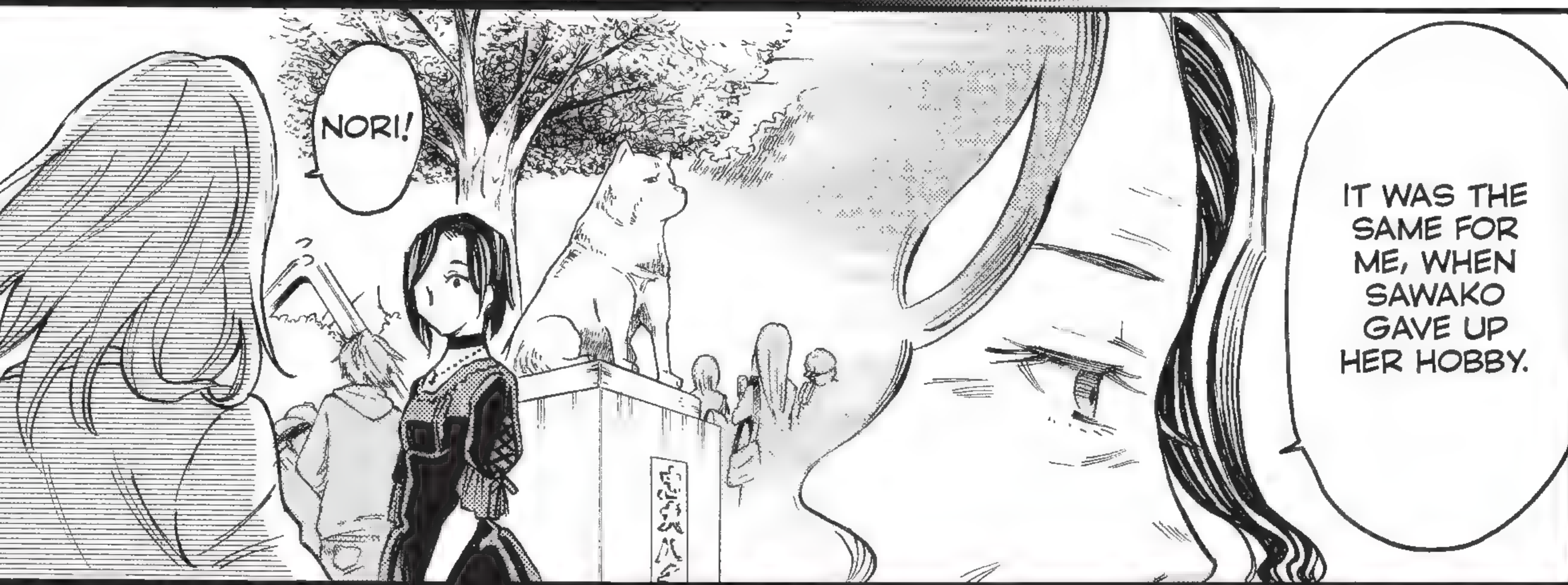


IS HOW
YOU FELT
WHEN MY
MOTHER
TOLD YOU
SHE WAS
DONE
WITH HER
HOBBY.

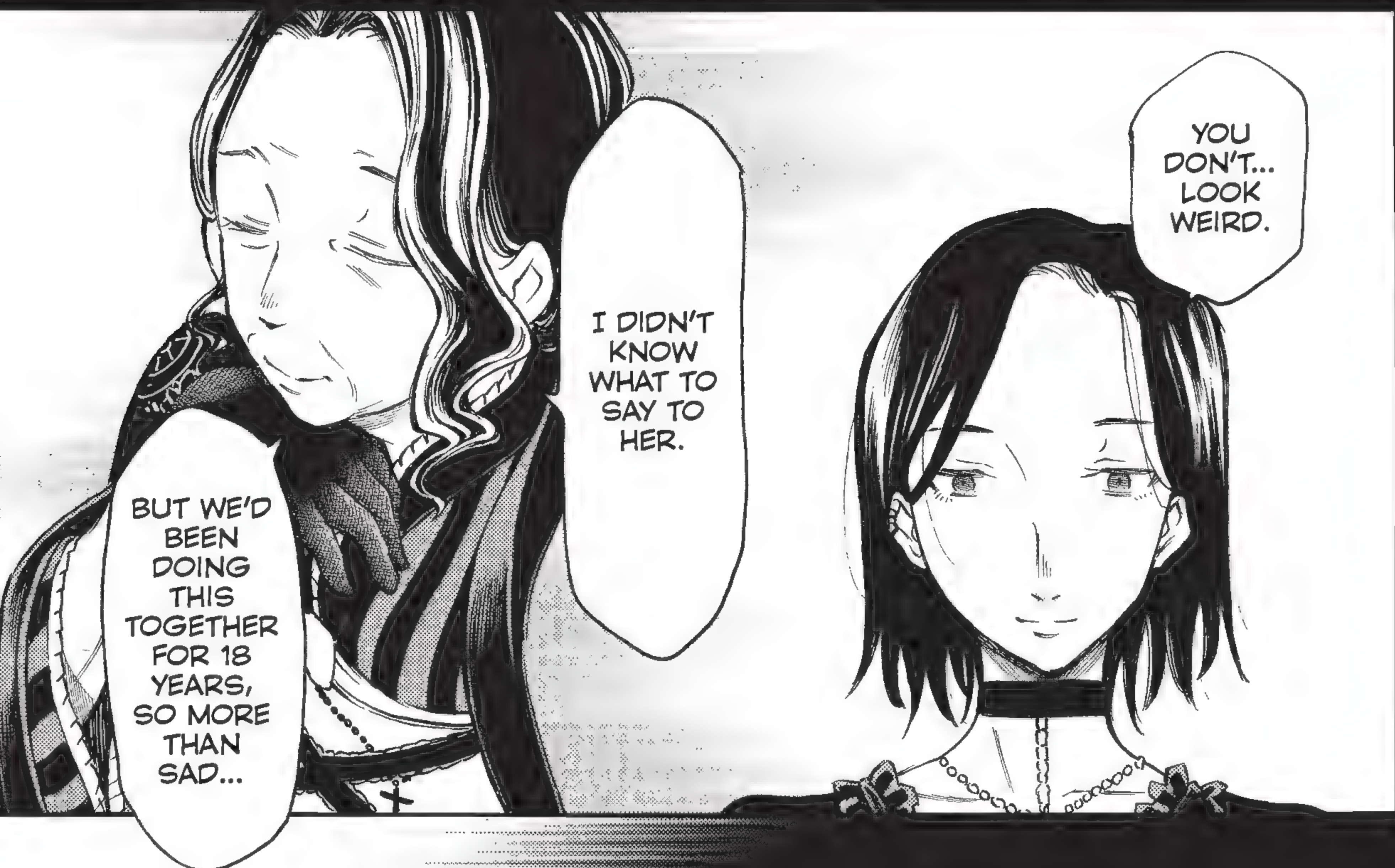
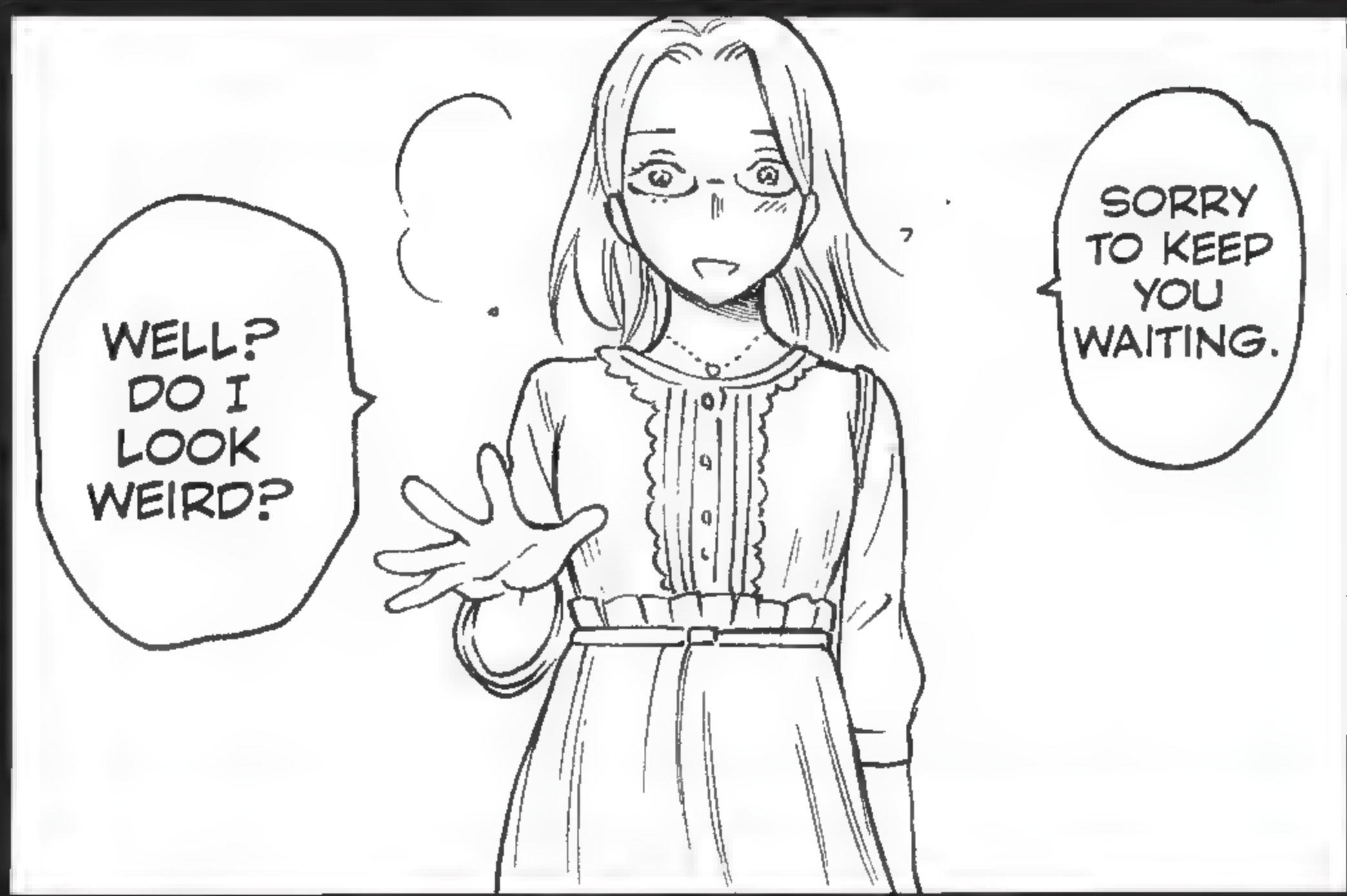
SO THE
FIRST
THING I
WANTED
TO ASK
YOU,
NORI-
OBASAN...

I'M
WON-
DERING
IF THAT
MAKES
ME SELF-
ISH.





Sign: Loyal Hachiko



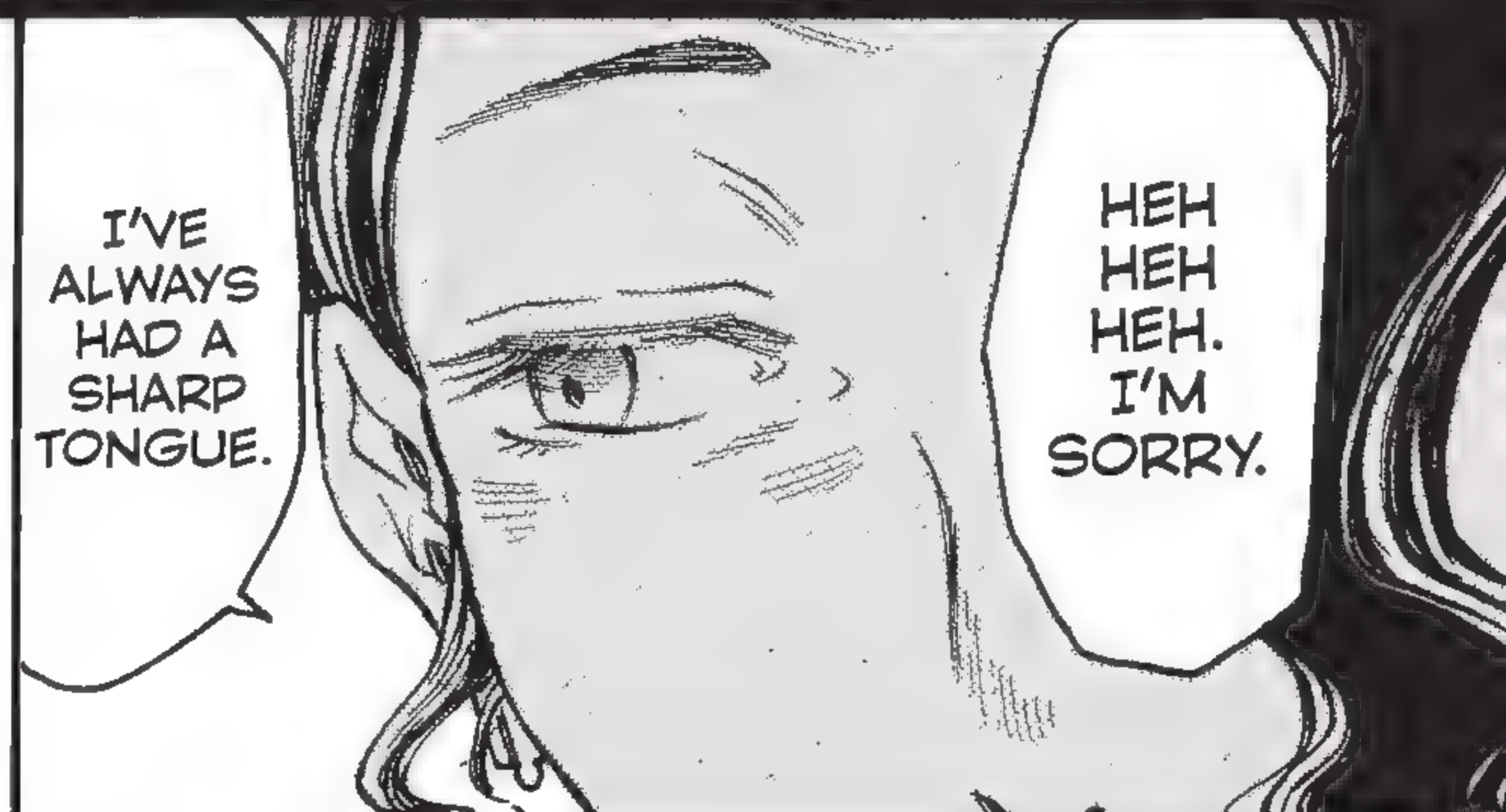


...I FELT
BETRAYED.

...IT MAY
BE MORE
ACCURATE
TO SAY...



THAT'S
...
OKAY
...



I'VE
ALWAYS
HAD A
SHARP
TONGUE.

HEH
HEH
HEH.
I'M
SORRY.



I KNOW
THAT
SAWAKO
HAD HER
OWN
BATTLE TO
FIGHT.

I HAD
THE
SAME
CON-
CERNS,
TOO,
AFTER
ALL.

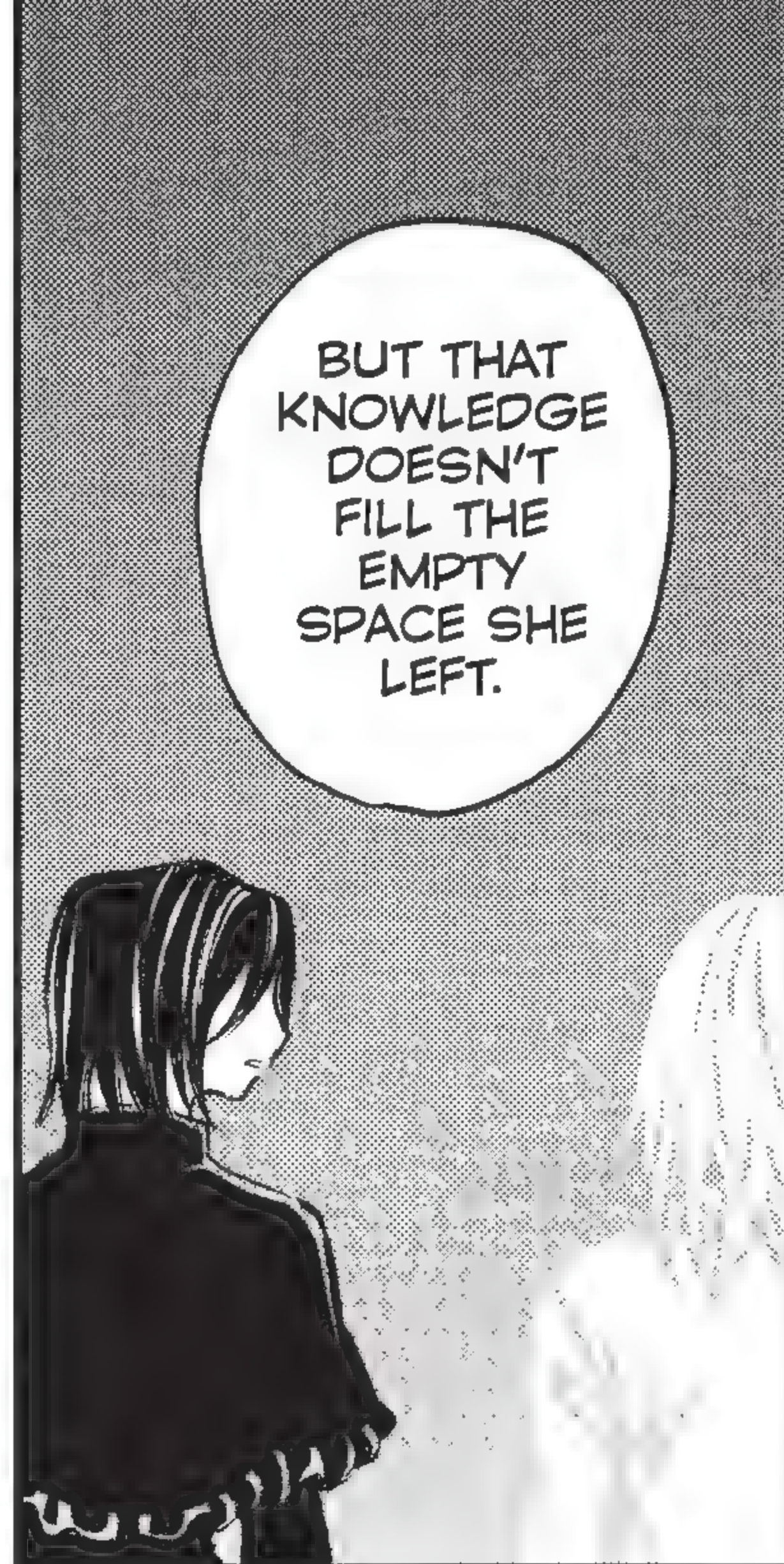


IT WAS
SAWAKO'S
DECISION,
AND I UN-
DERSTOOD
HER REA-
SONING.

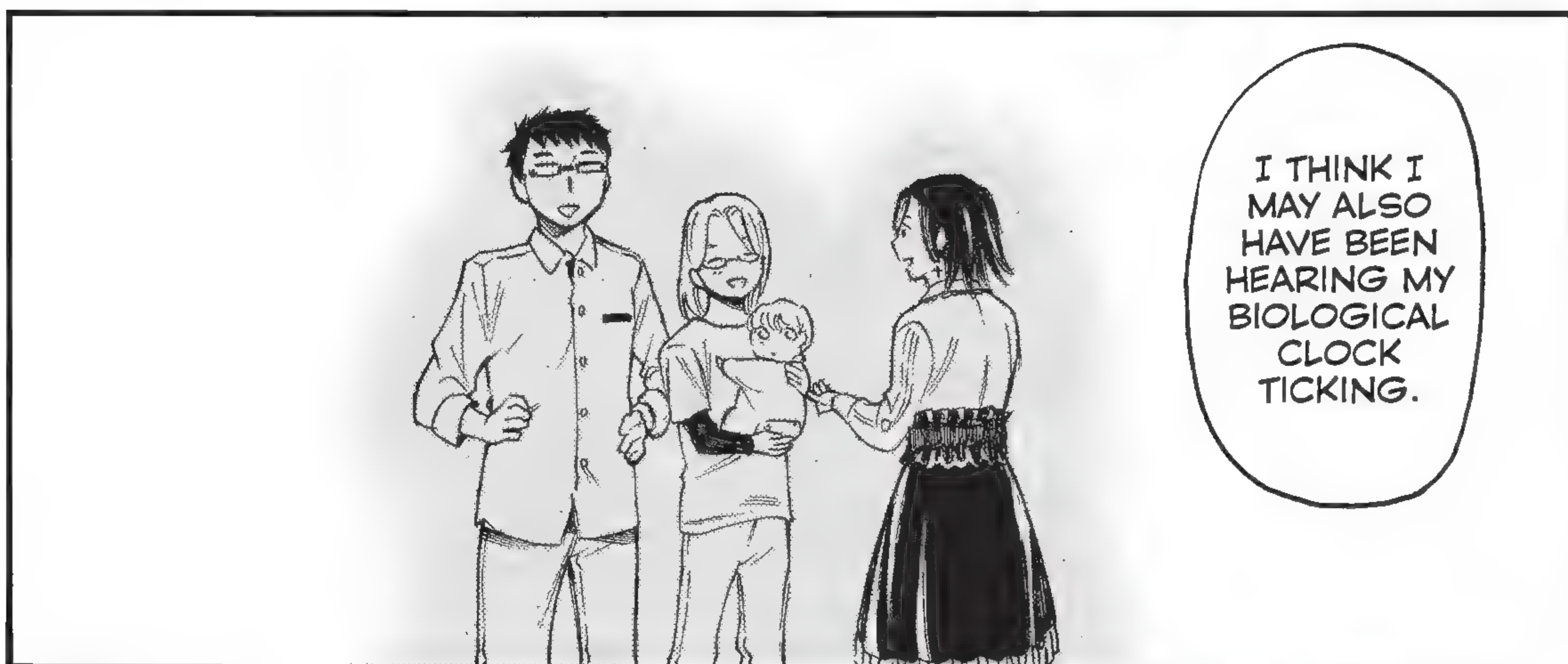


AND I HAD MORE DISPOSABLE INCOME, SO I WOULD SEEK OUT THE THINGS I LOVED—BUY THEM, MAKE THEM. AND FILL THAT VOID AS MUCH AS I COULD.

SO I GOT EVEN MORE OBSESSED WITH IT.



BUT THAT KNOWLEDGE DOESN'T FILL THE EMPTY SPACE SHE LEFT.

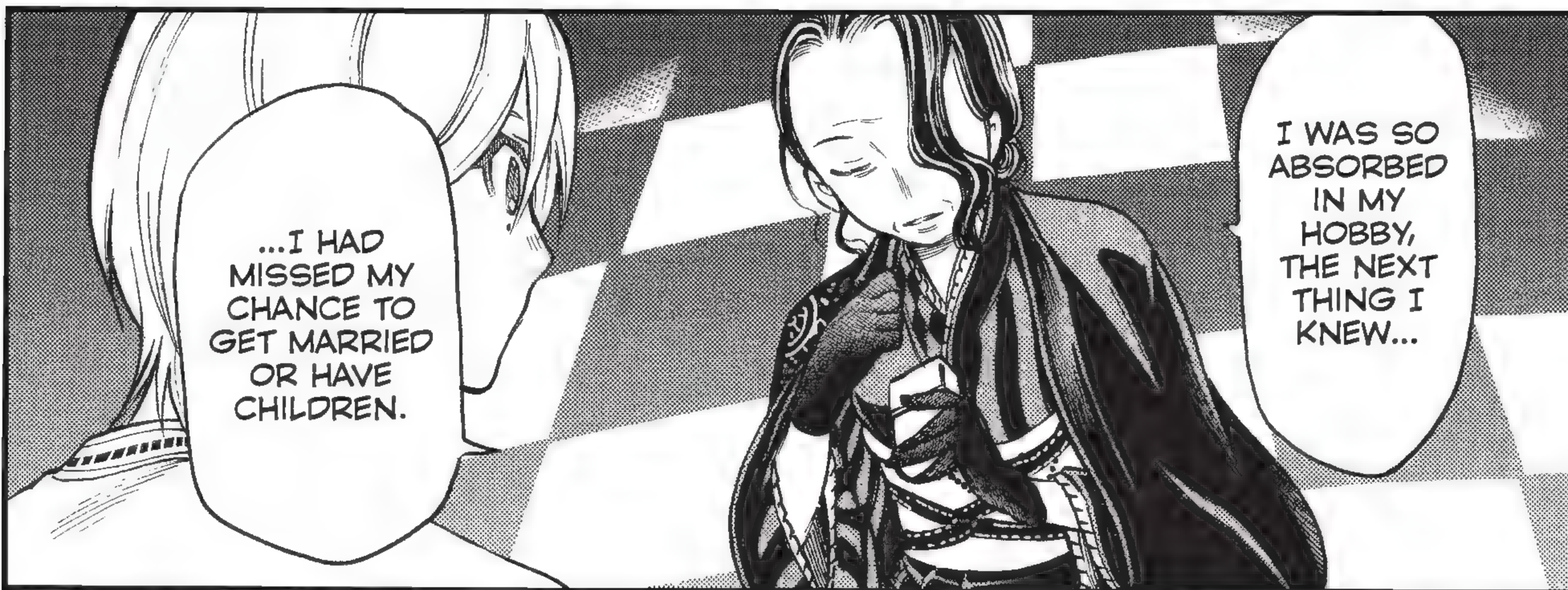


I THINK I MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN HEARING MY BIOLOGICAL CLOCK TICKING.



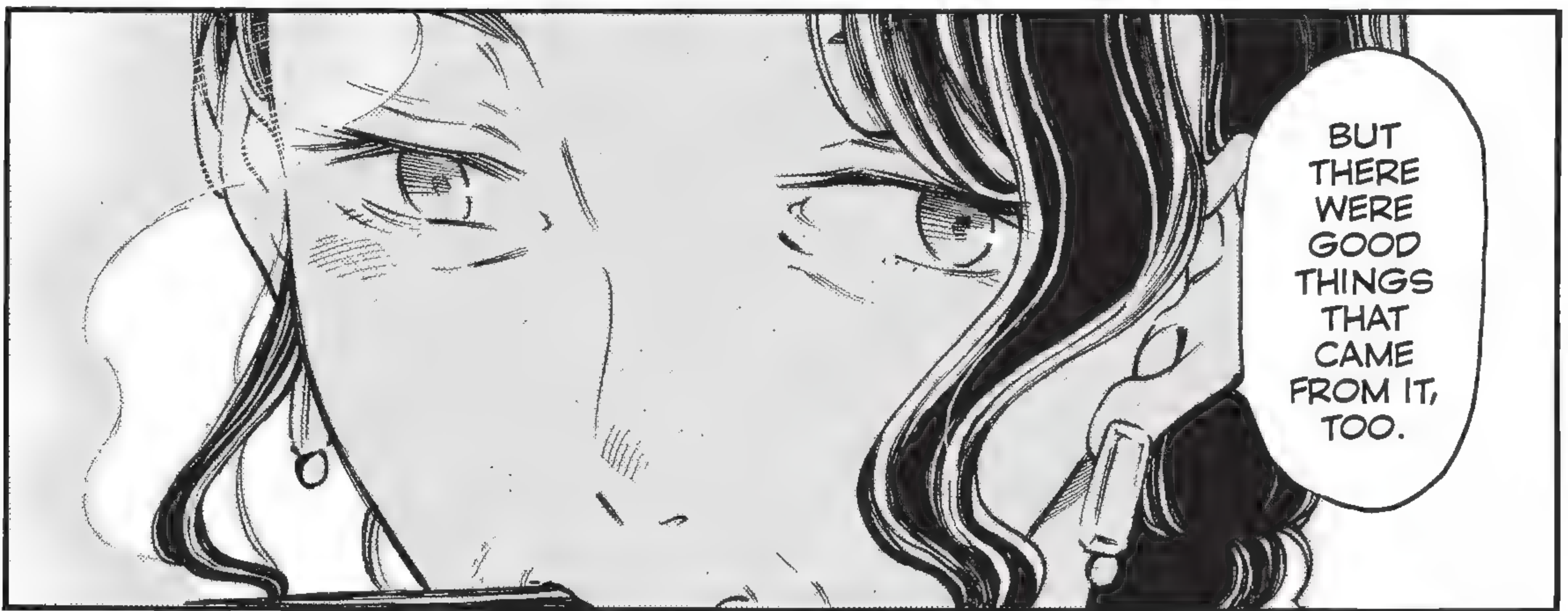
A WOMAN LOSES A LOT AS SHE GETS OLDER.

IT'S SCARY.



...I HAD
MISSED MY
CHANCE TO
GET MARRIED
OR HAVE
CHILDREN.

I WAS SO
ABSORBED
IN MY
HOBBY,
THE NEXT
THING I
KNEW...



BUT
THERE
WERE
GOOD
THINGS
THAT
CAME
FROM IT,
TOO.



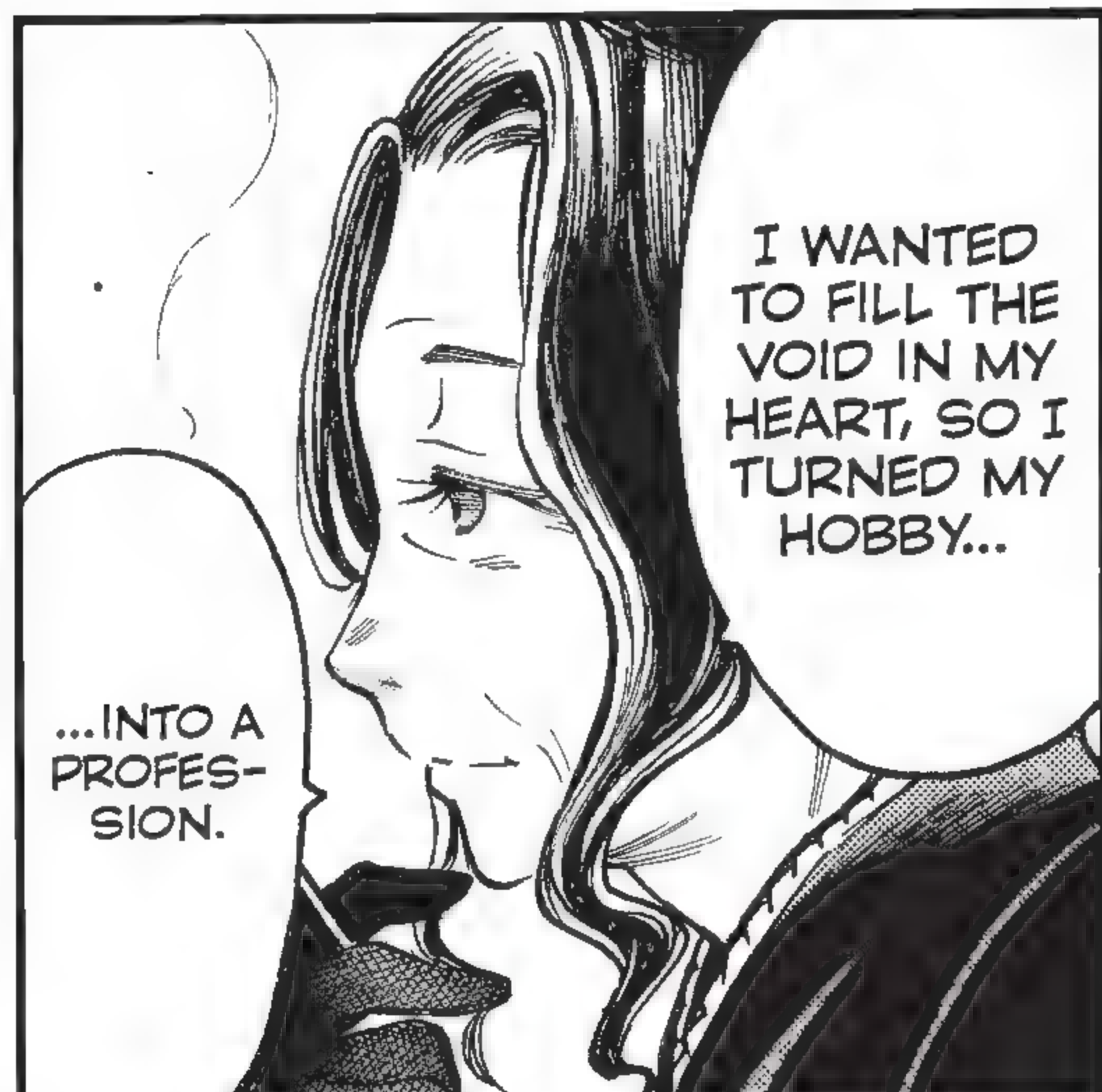
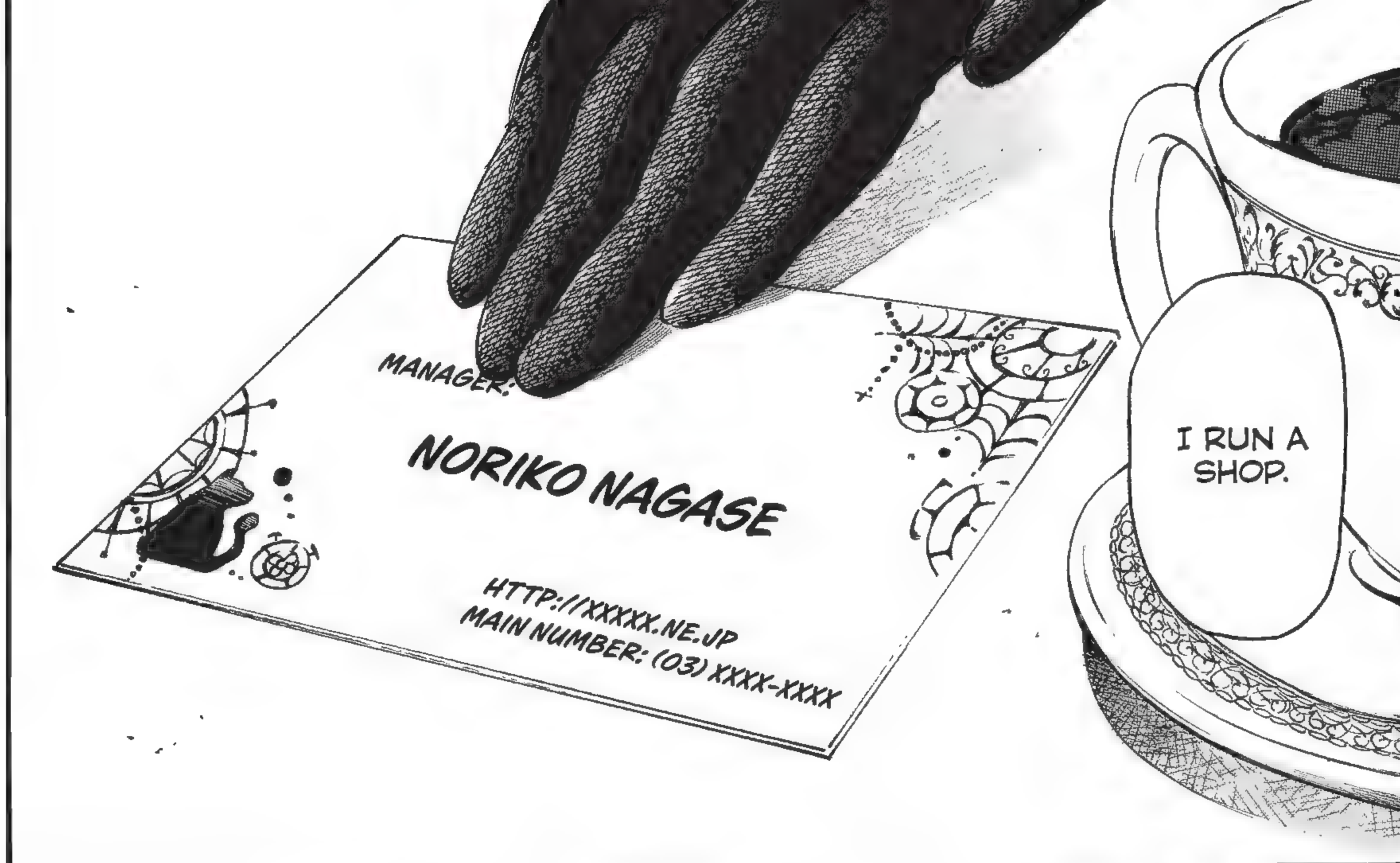
OH.

DIDN'T
SAWAKO
TELL
YOU?

THEN
HERE...



WHAT?





NO.



THEN
...
...COME
WITH
ME.



...WHERE
MY
HOBBY
TOOK
ME.

I'LL
SHOW
YOU...



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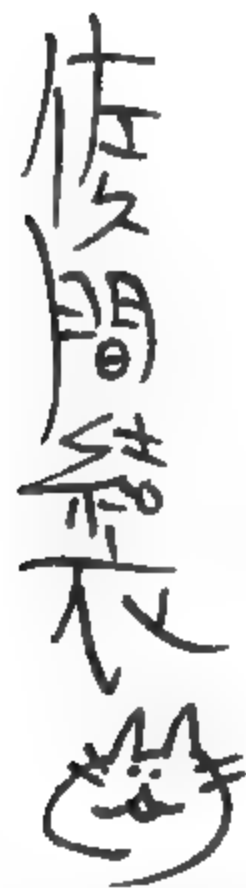
I WANT
MY LIFE
TO KEEP
BEING SO
PACKED AND
EXHAUSTING
THAT IT
MAKES ME
WANT TO
VOMIT.

IT WAS
THE MOST
JAM-
PACKED
YEAR OF
MY LIFE
SO FAR.

MY FIRST
WEEKLY
SERIES
...

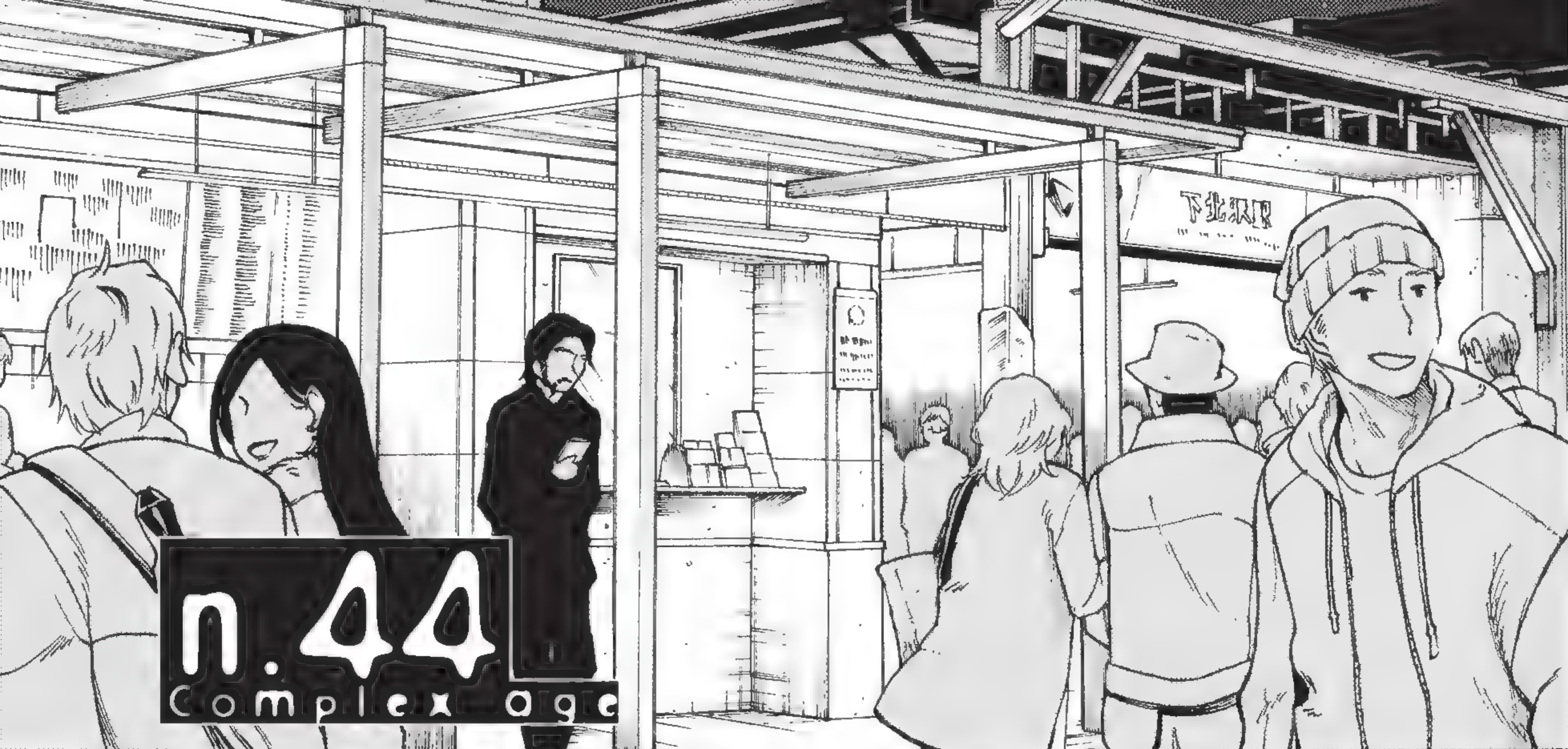
NOW,
FOR THIS
VOLUME,
I HOPE
TO TALK
ABOUT
HOW THIS
SERIES
CAME TO
BE, AND
WHAT IT'S
LIKE AT
WORK.

THIS
SERIES
HAS
REACHED
ITS FINAL
VOLUME.
THANK
YOU FOR
STICKING
WITH IT TO
THE END.



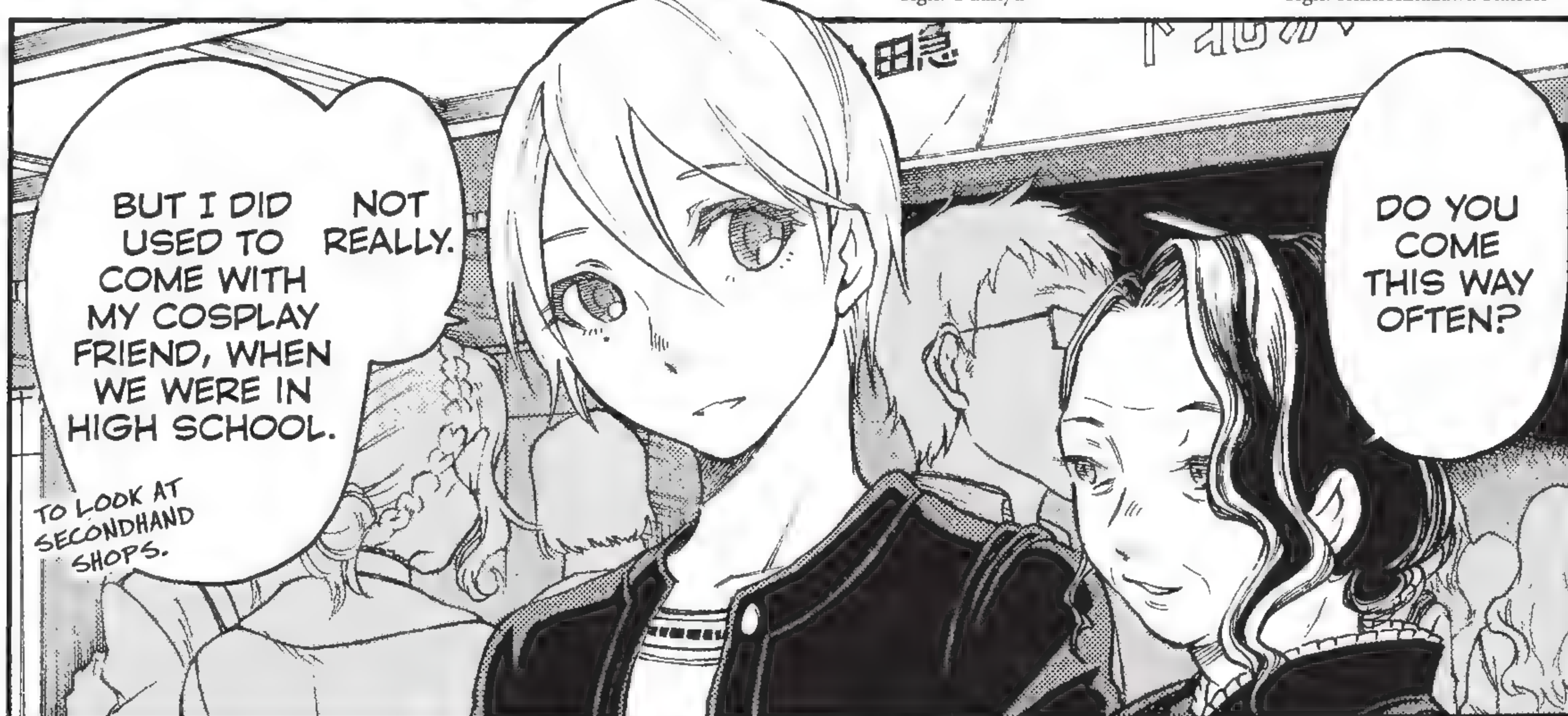
YUI SAKUMA





Sign: Odakyu

Sign: Shimokitazawa Station



BUT I DID NOT
USED TO REALLY.
COME WITH
MY COSPLAY
FRIEND, WHEN
WE WERE IN
HIGH SCHOOL.

TO LOOK AT
SECONDHAND
SHOPS.

DO YOU
COME
THIS WAY
OFTEN?

Sign: Shimokitazawa South Exit Shopping District



I JUST DON'T
LIKE THOSE
PLACES
ANYMORE—
THEY'RE TOO
BUSY, AND
THEY ONLY
CARE ABOUT
THE LATEST
TRENDS.

SO YOU DIDN'T
SET UP SHOP IN
HARAJUKU OR
OMOTESANDO,

I SEE.



NOTHING
WRONG WITH
THAT. IT'S A
BLESSING
IF YOU'RE
TRYING TO
LOOK LIKE
A MANGA
CHARACTER.

...I GET
THAT A
LOT.

MY, BUT
YOU'RE
TALL.



THAT'S A
SAD THING
IN SUCH
A YOUNG
PERSON.

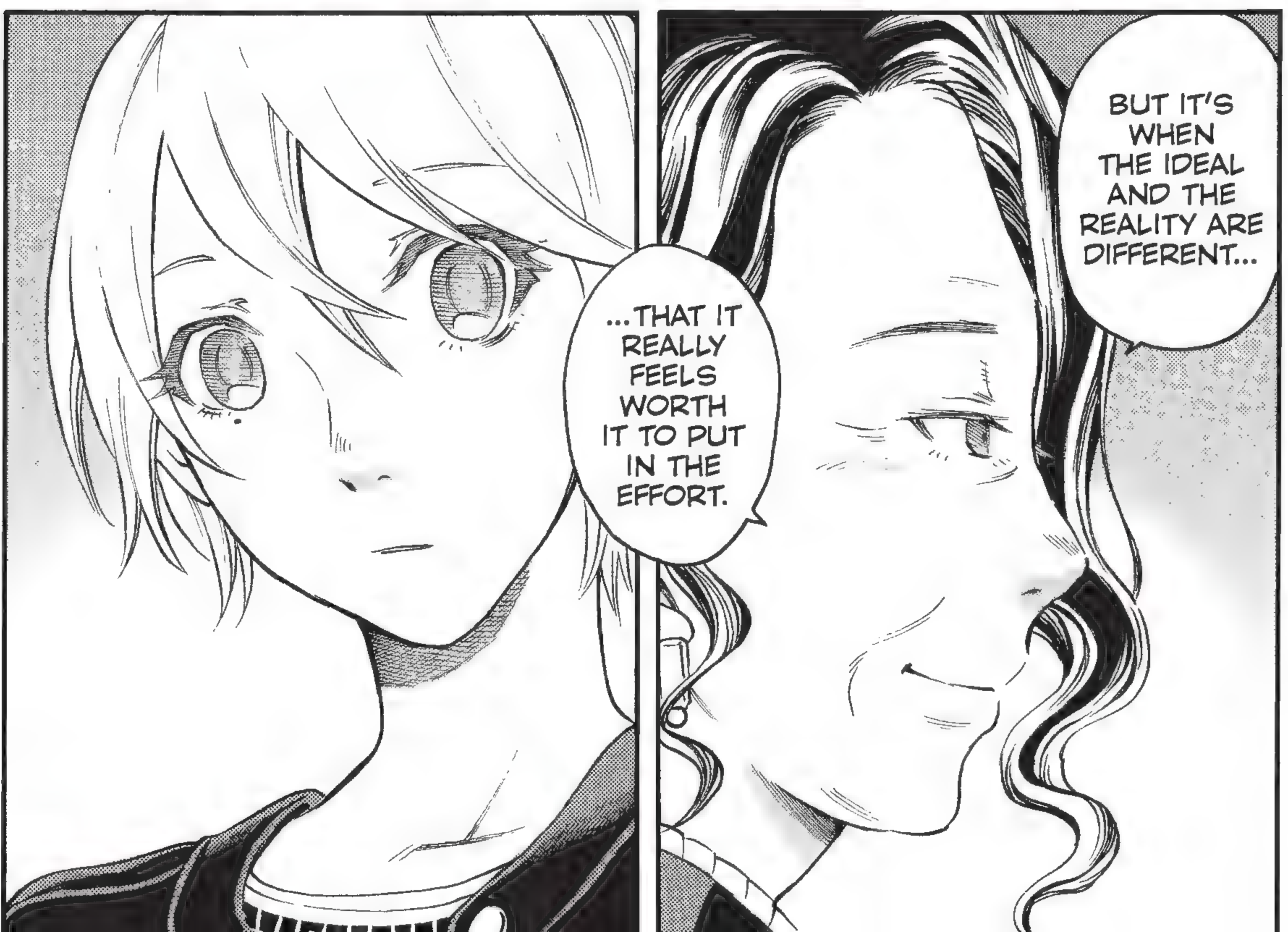
IT'S ALL
RIGHT...I AM
WELL AWARE
THAT MY
IDEALS ARE
DIFFERENT
THAN
REALITY.

SIGH...



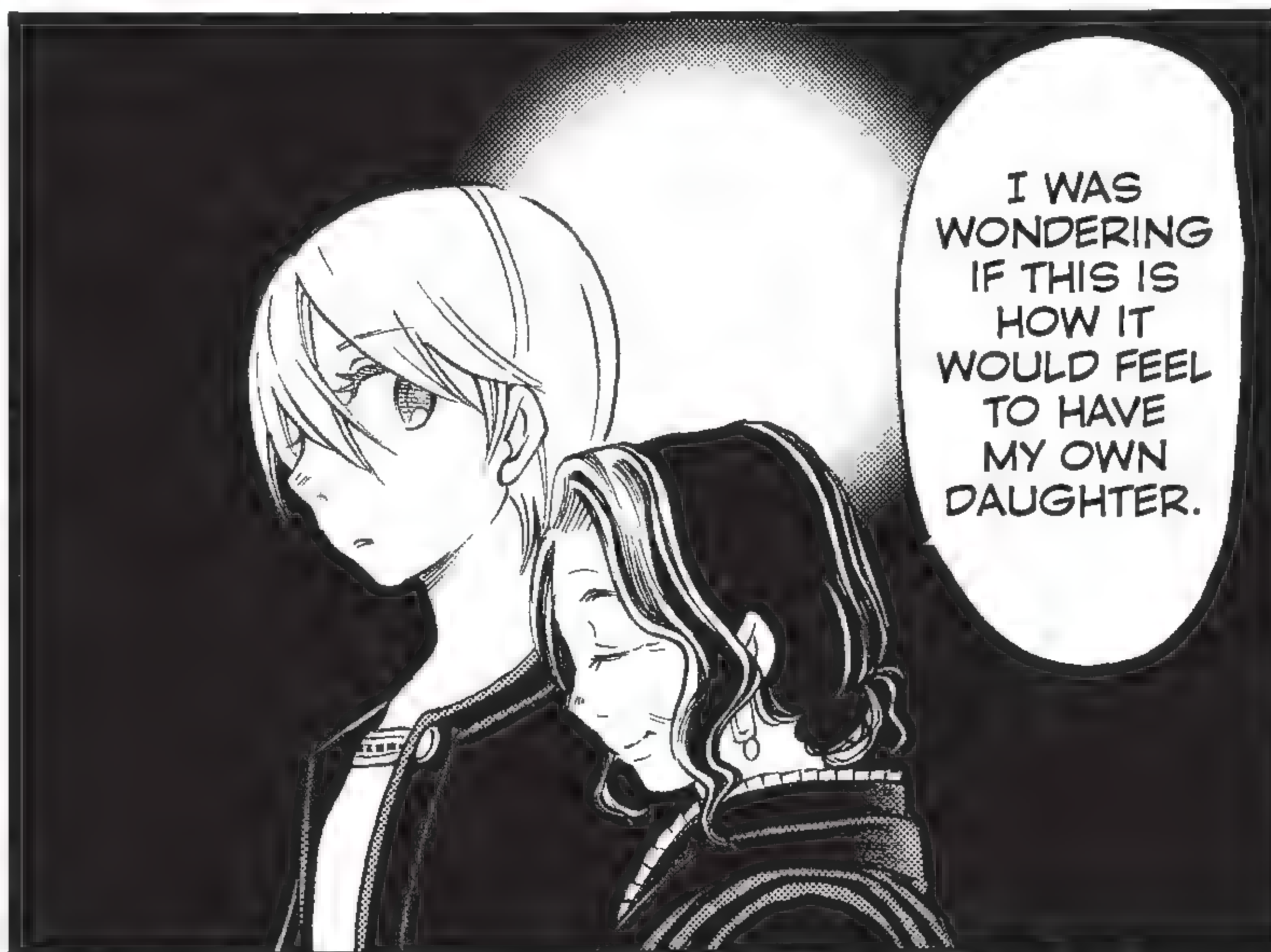
OH,
IS THAT
SO? I'M
SORRY.

WELL, THE
CHAR-
ACTERS I
CHOOSE
TEND TO
BE THE
SMALL
ONES...



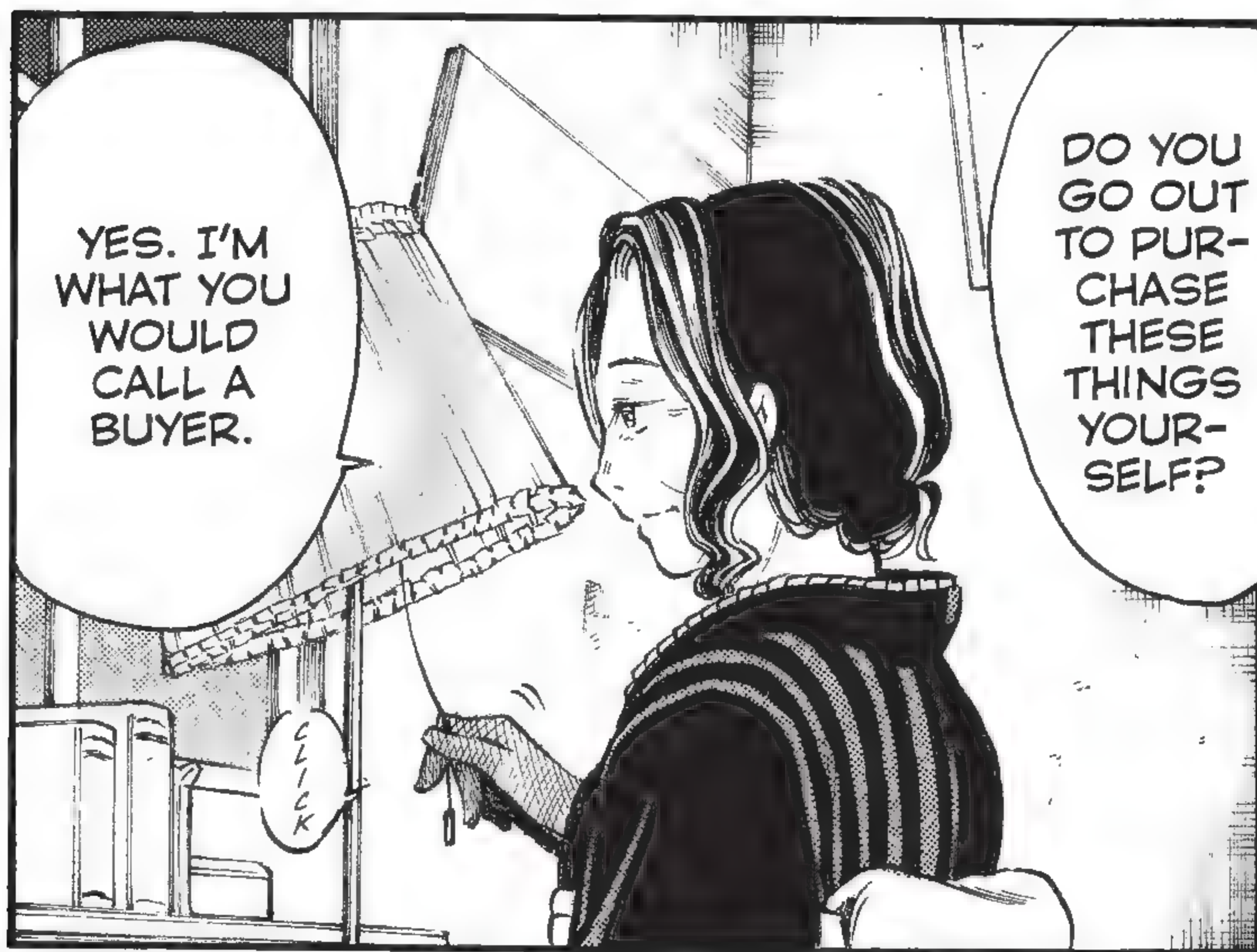
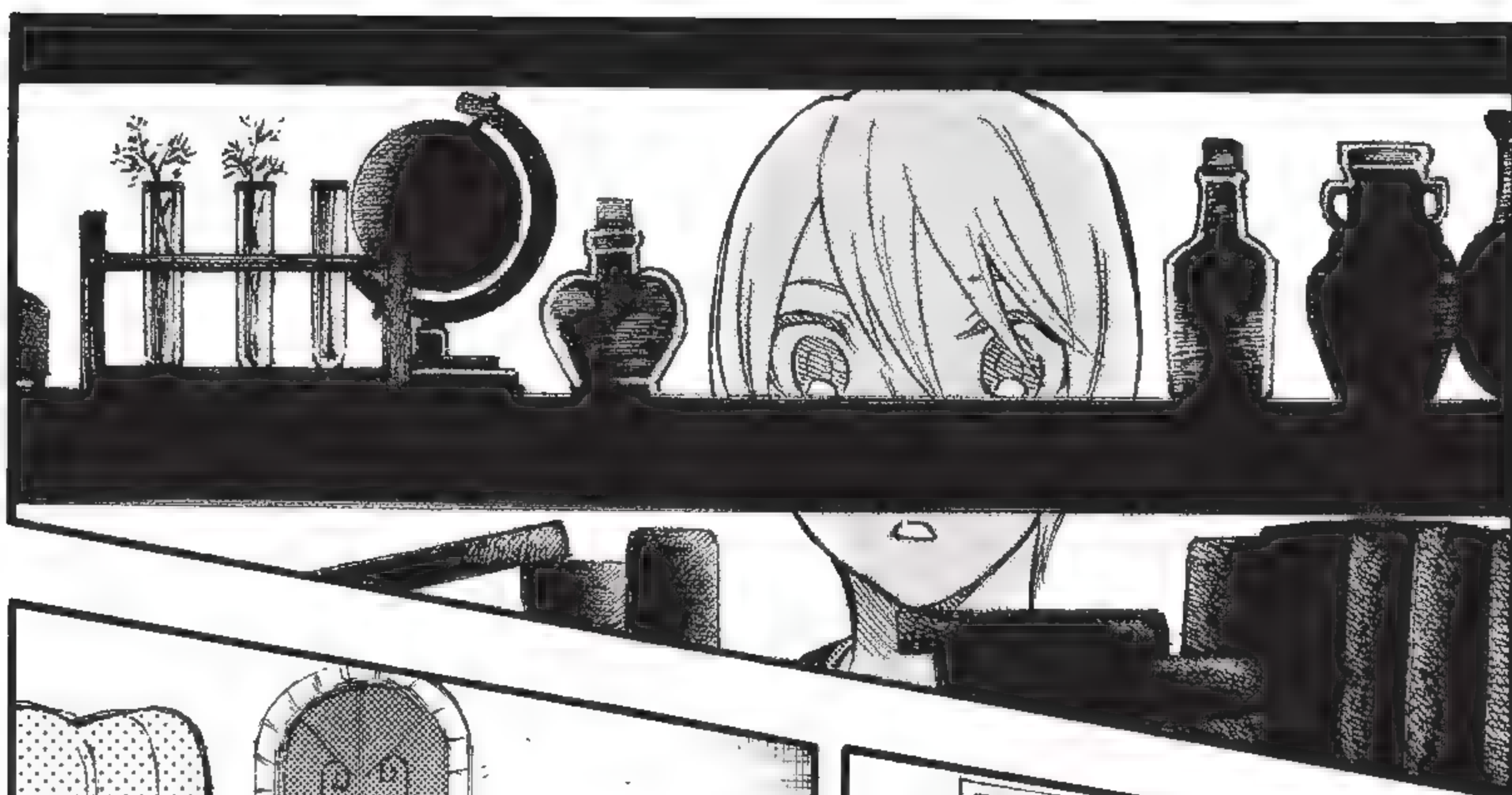
...THAT IT
REALLY
FEELS
WORTH
IT TO PUT
IN THE
EFFORT.

BUT IT'S
WHEN
THE IDEAL
AND THE
REALITY ARE
DIFFERENT...





WELCOME.





I'M
RENTING
THE SPACE
OUT TO
OTHER
PEOPLE.

NO, I
DIDN'T
MAKE
THOSE.

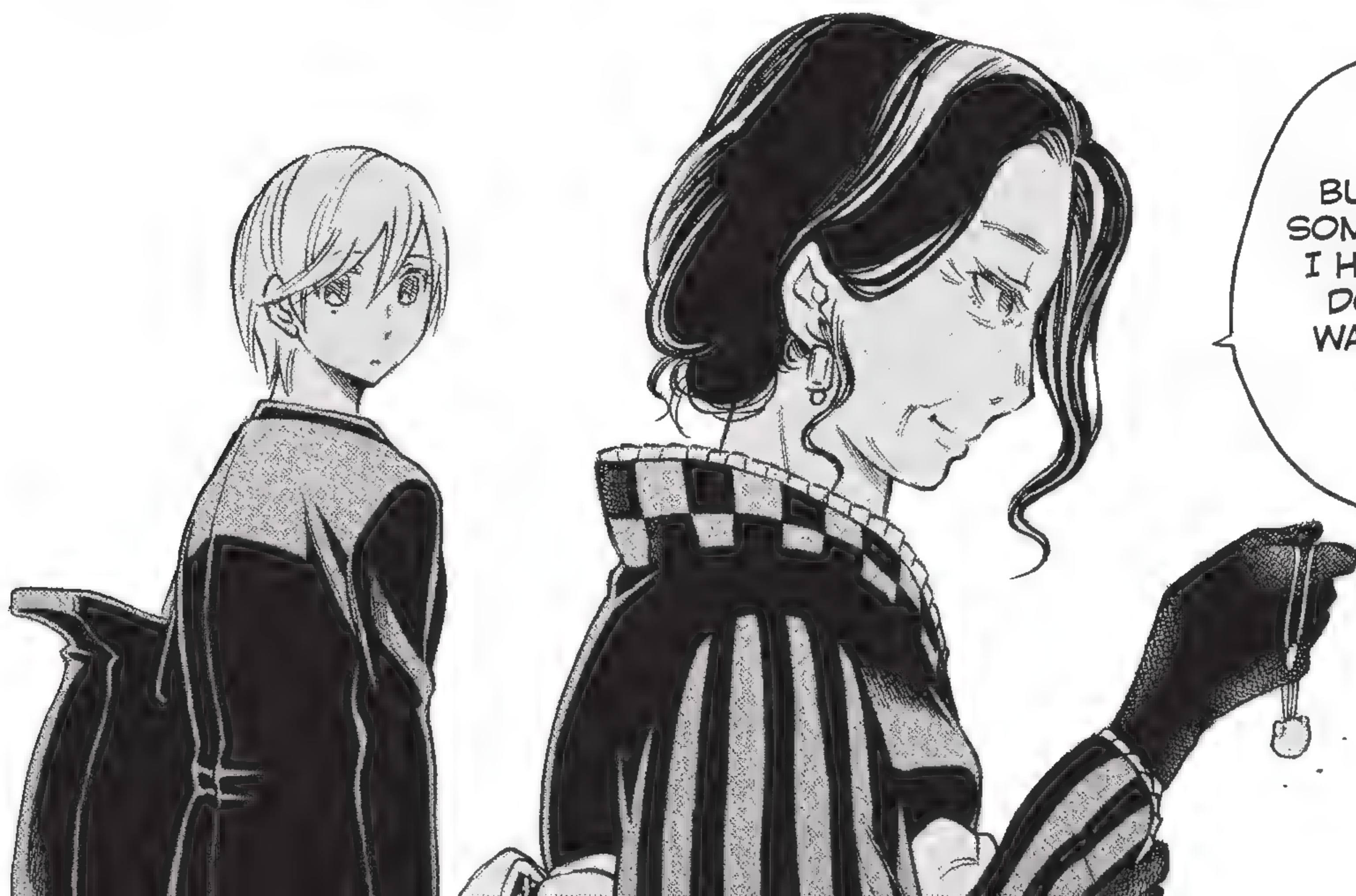


GETTING
THEM TO
FIT THE
AMBIANCE
OF MY
STORE.

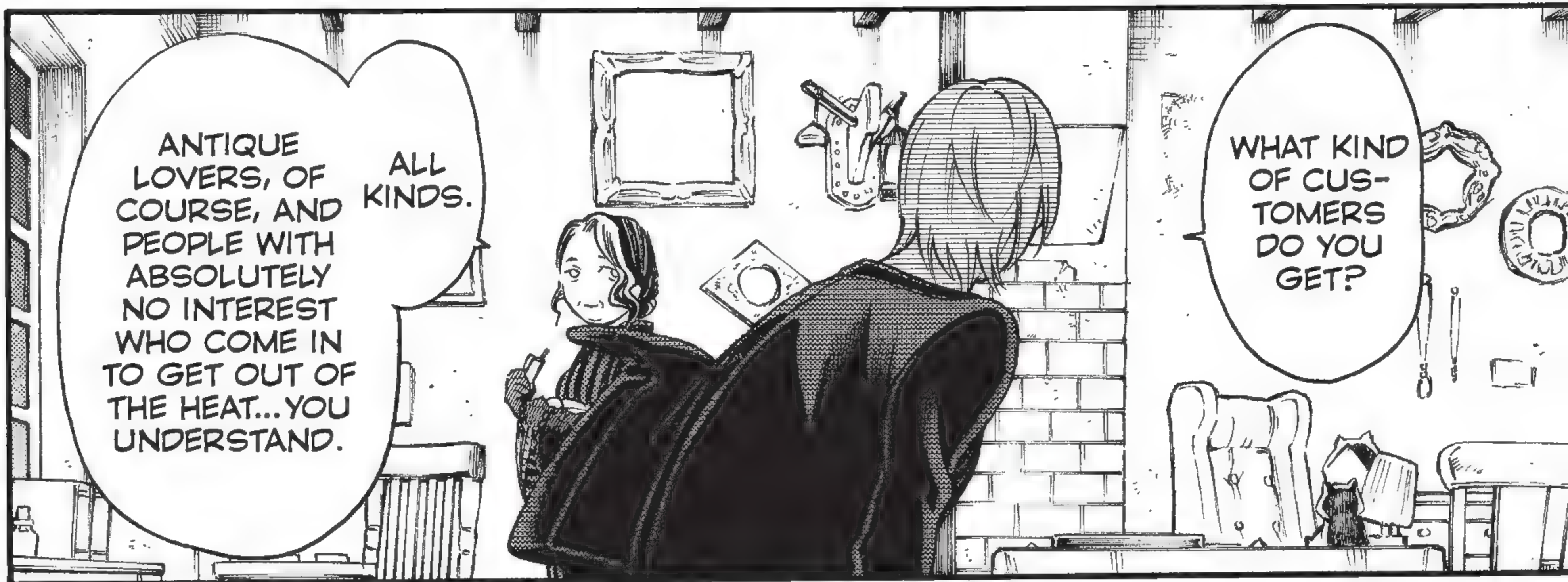
THEY
DON'T ALL
MATCH MY
TASTES,
SO IT CAN
BE AN
ORDEAL



THERE ARE
QUITE A FEW
PEOPLE WHO
WANT TO
SELL THE
CLOTHES
AND ACCES-
SORIES THEY
MAKE.



BUT IT'S
SOMETHING
I HAVE TO
DO, IF I
WANT TO
EAT.



ANTIQUE LOVERS, OF COURSE, AND PEOPLE WITH ABSOLUTELY NO INTEREST WHO COME IN TO GET OUT OF THE HEAT...YOU UNDERSTAND.

ALL KINDS.

WHAT KIND OF CUSTOMERS DO YOU GET?

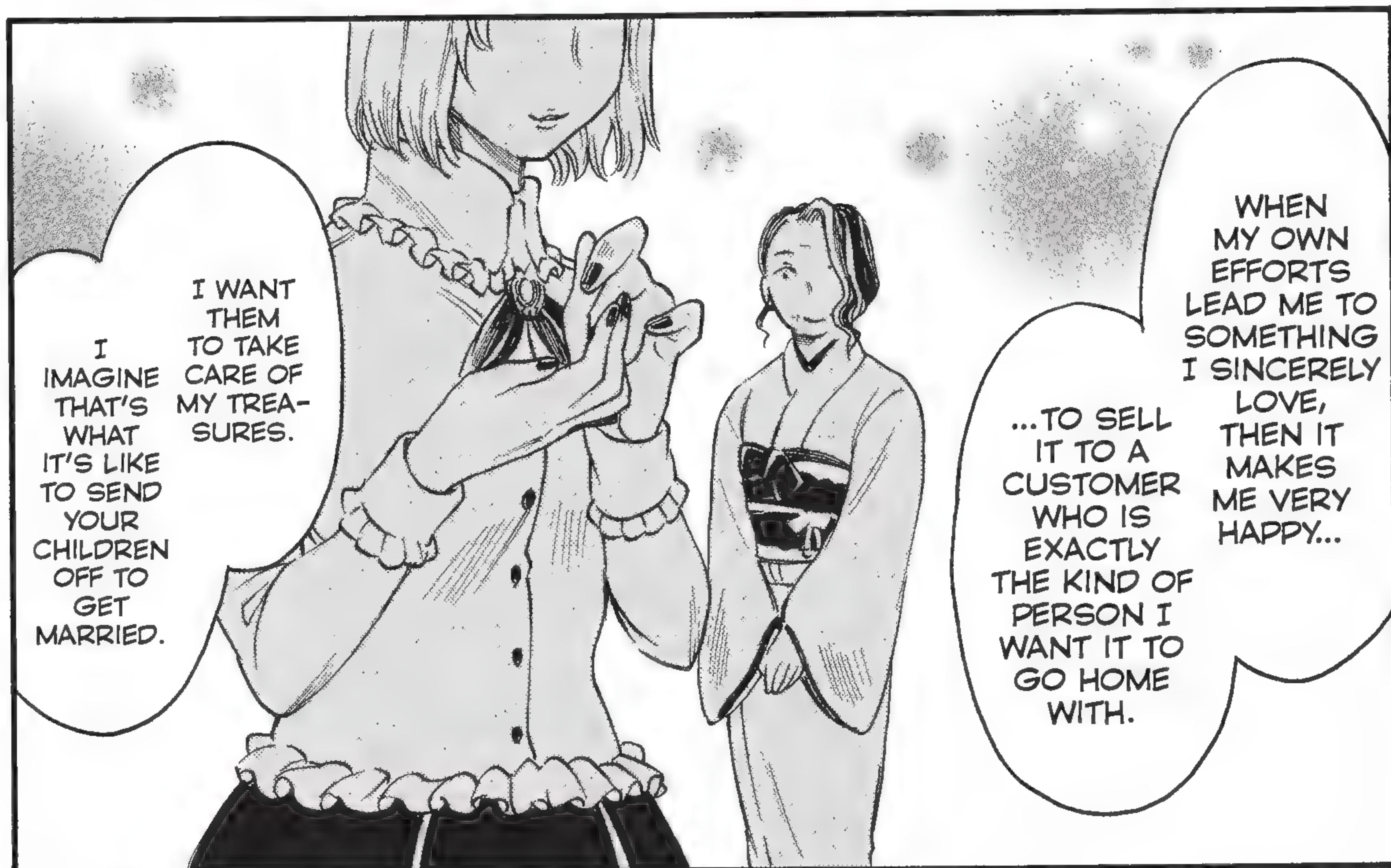


GENERALLY.

YES.



DO YOU... ENJOY IT?



I IMAGINE THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE TO SEND YOUR CHILDREN OFF TO GET MARRIED.

I WANT THEM TO TAKE CARE OF MY TREASURES.

...TO SELL IT TO A CUSTOMER WHO IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF PERSON I WANT IT TO GO HOME WITH.

WHEN MY OWN EFFORTS LEAD ME TO SOMETHING I SINCERELY LOVE, THEN IT MAKES ME VERY HAPPY...

...I HAVE TO
MAKE SURE
THE TRANS-
ACTION IS
PLEASANT.



BUT
WHEN A
CUSTOMER
DECIDES TO
BUY SOME-
THING...



NO, IT
DOESN'T.

BUT
THAT
CAN'T
HAPPEN
EVERY
TIME.



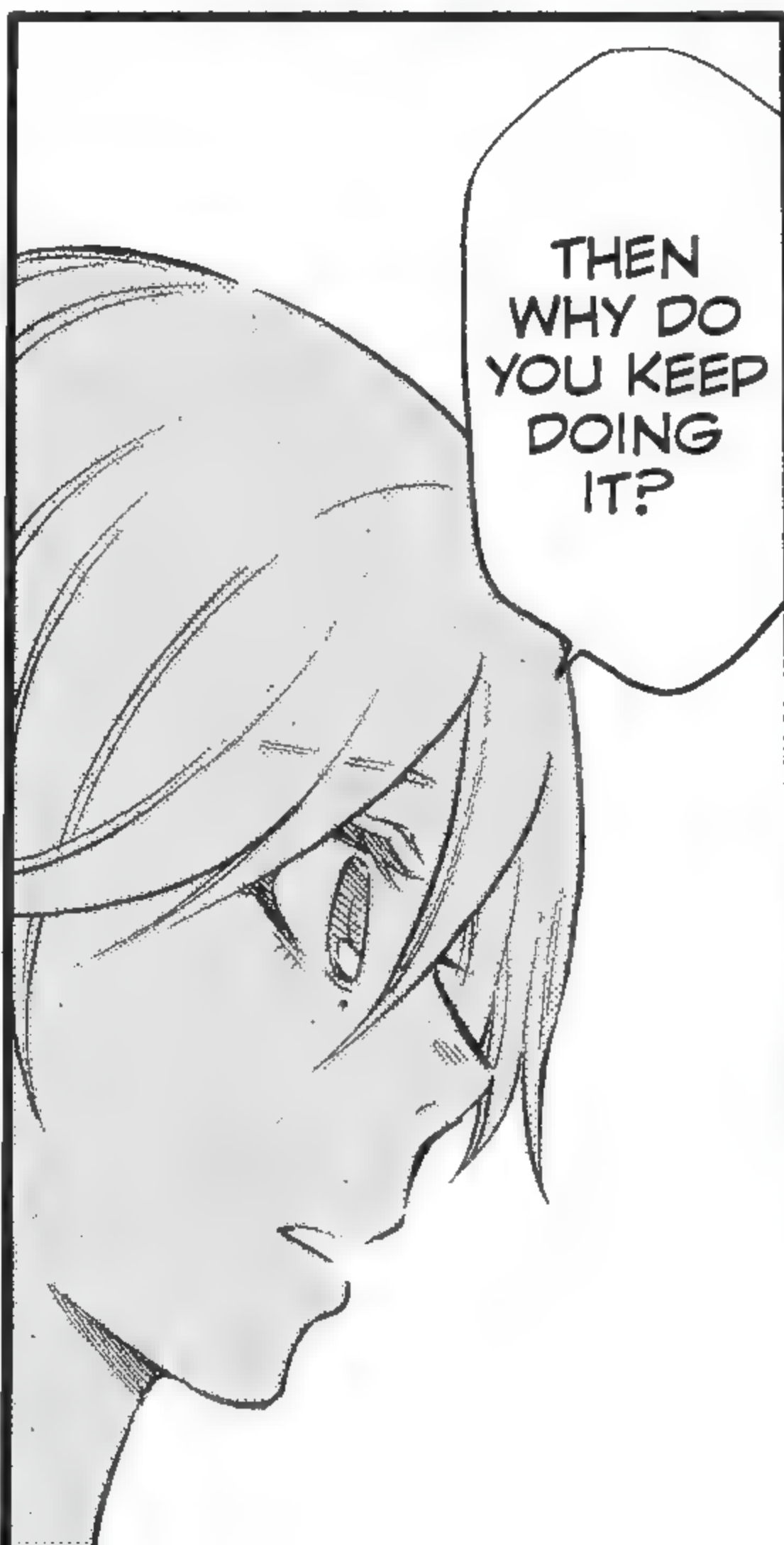
SO.



BECAUSE
THIS IS
NOT THE
PLACE TO
FORCE MY
AESTHETIC
ONTO
OTHERS.



THAT'S
EASY.

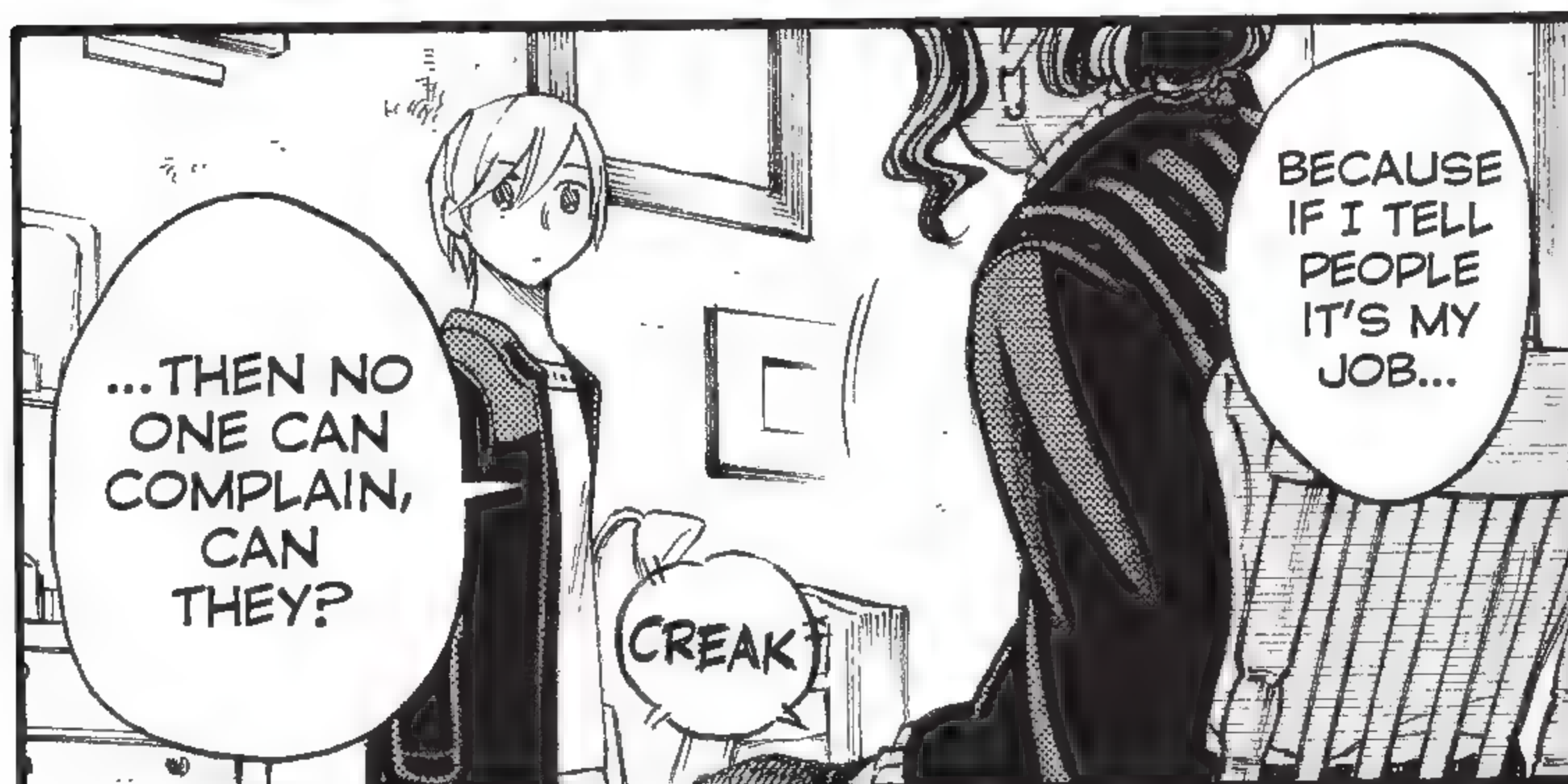
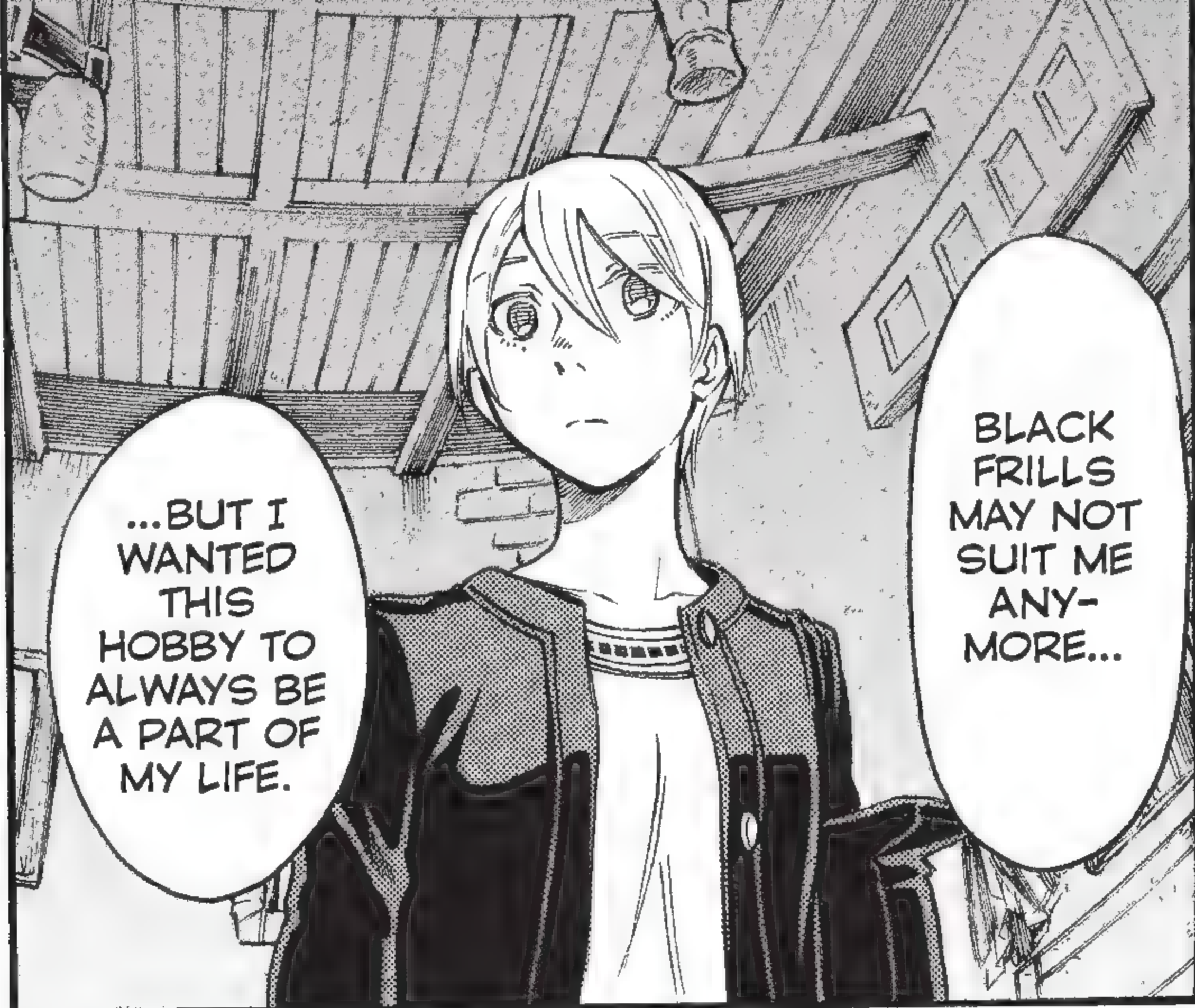


THEN
WHY DO
YOU KEEP
DOING
IT?



OH, IT
DOES.
OF
COURSE.

DOESN'T
IT...GET
HARD?

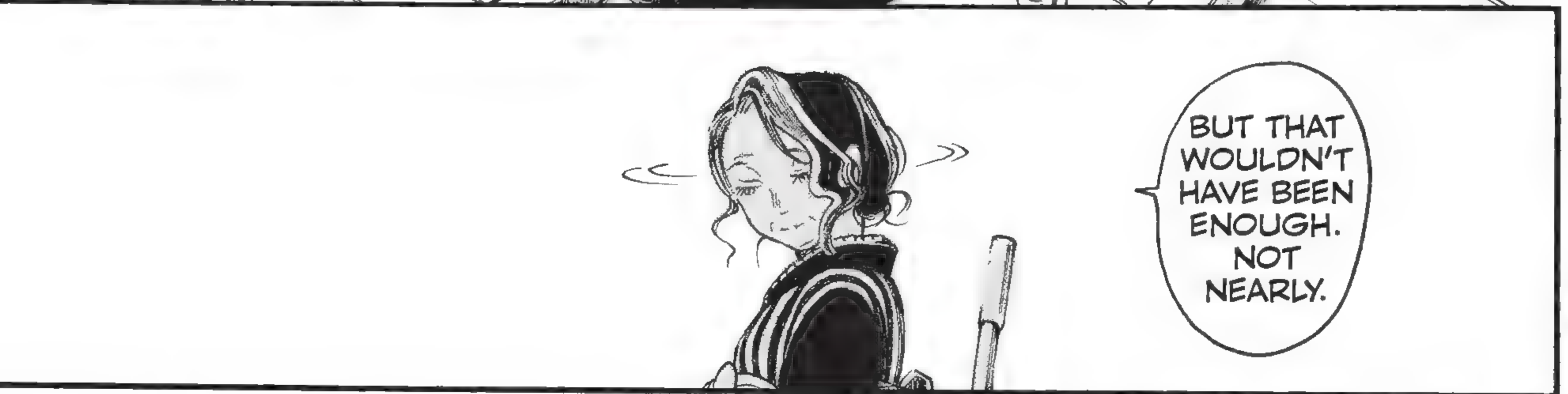




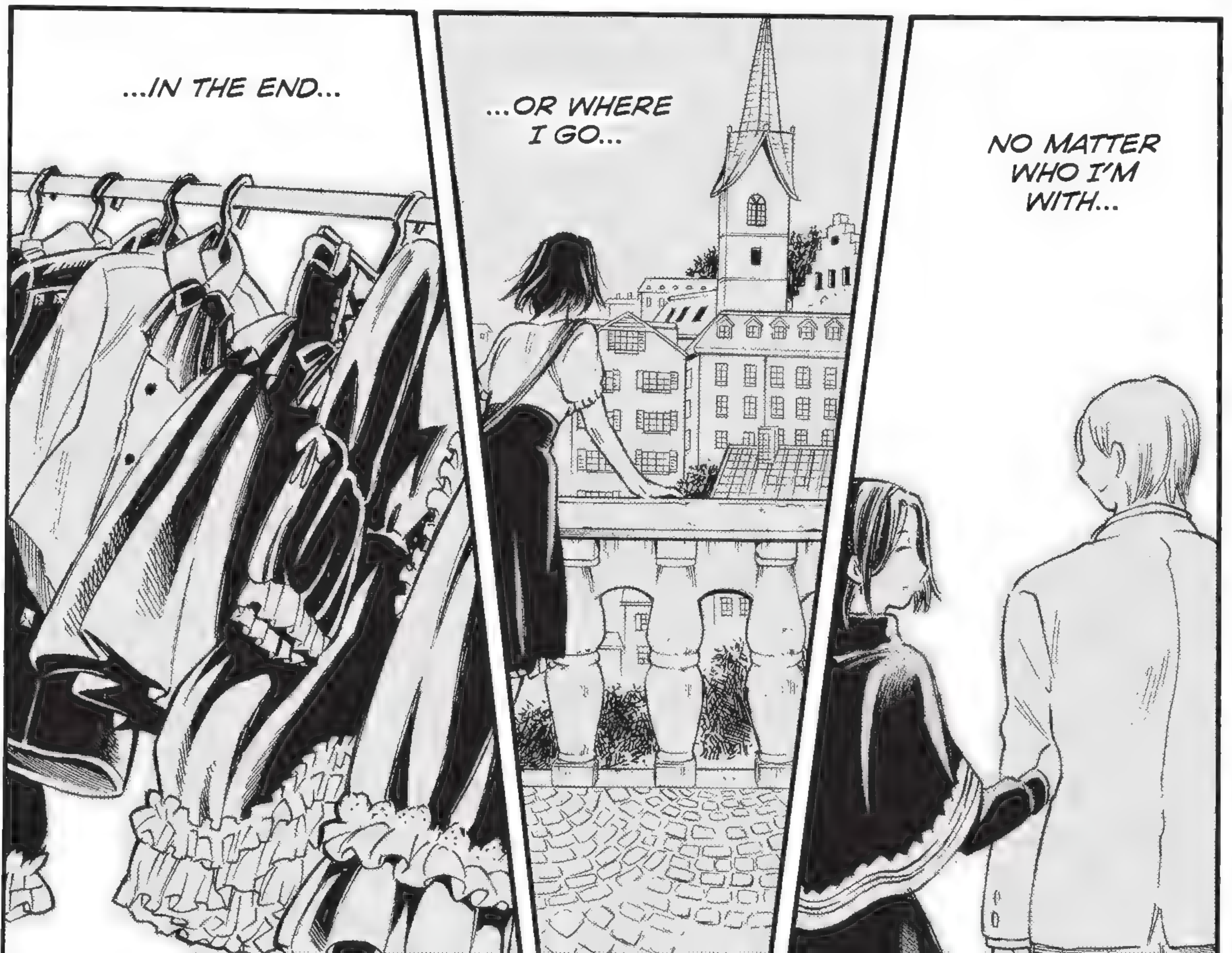
MAYBE I
SHOULD
HAVE
CHOSEN
SAWAKO'S
PATH.

THERE
HAVE
BEEN
TIMES
WHEN
I'VE
WON-
DERED
...

ON THE OTHER
HAND, I HAVE
TO DEAL WITH
COMPLAINTS FROM
CUSTOMERS, OR
MANAGEMENT
PROBLEMS. THERE
ARE PLENTY OF
THINGS THAT
TAKE MORE THAN
"LOVE" TO SEE
YOU THROUGH.



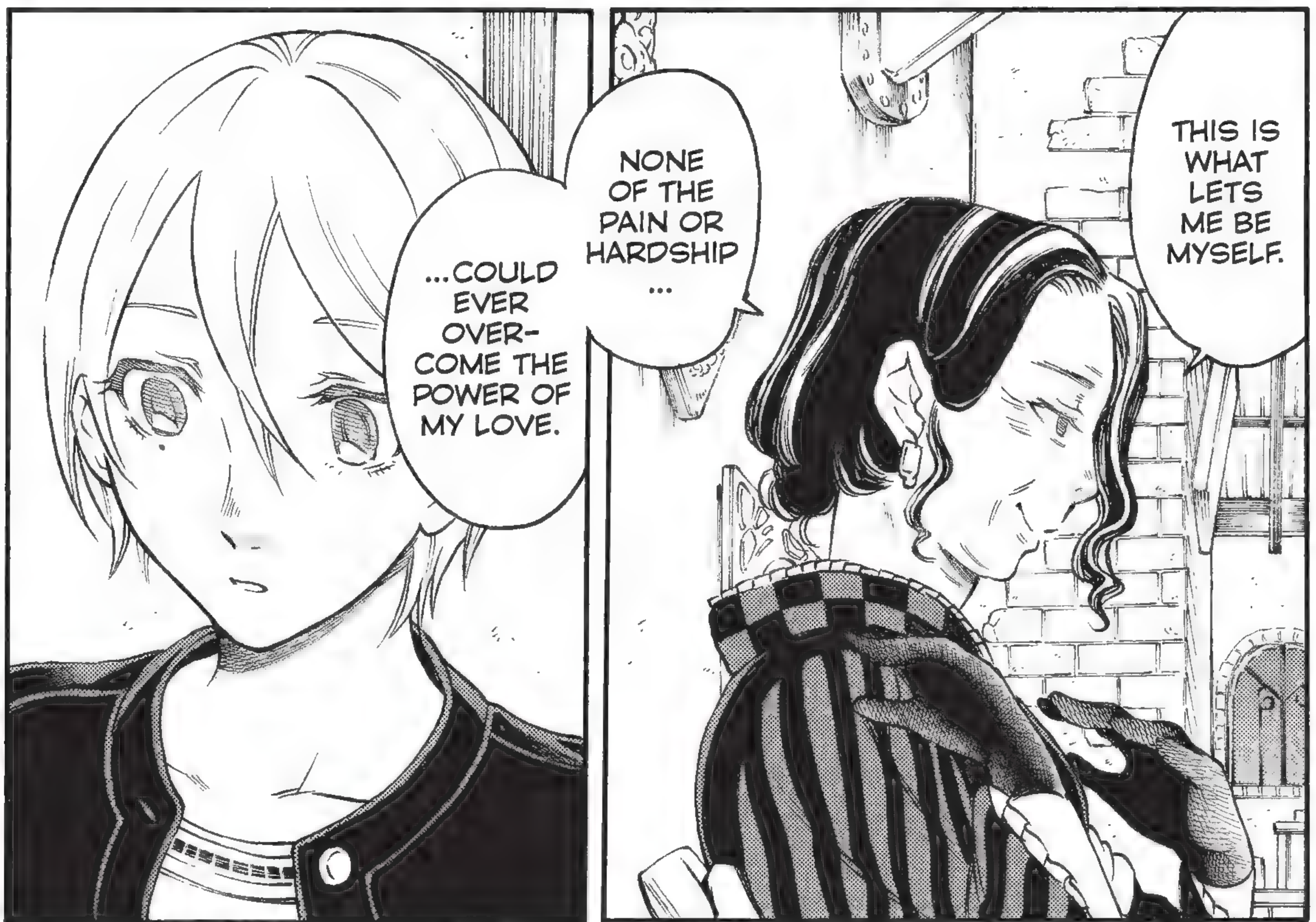
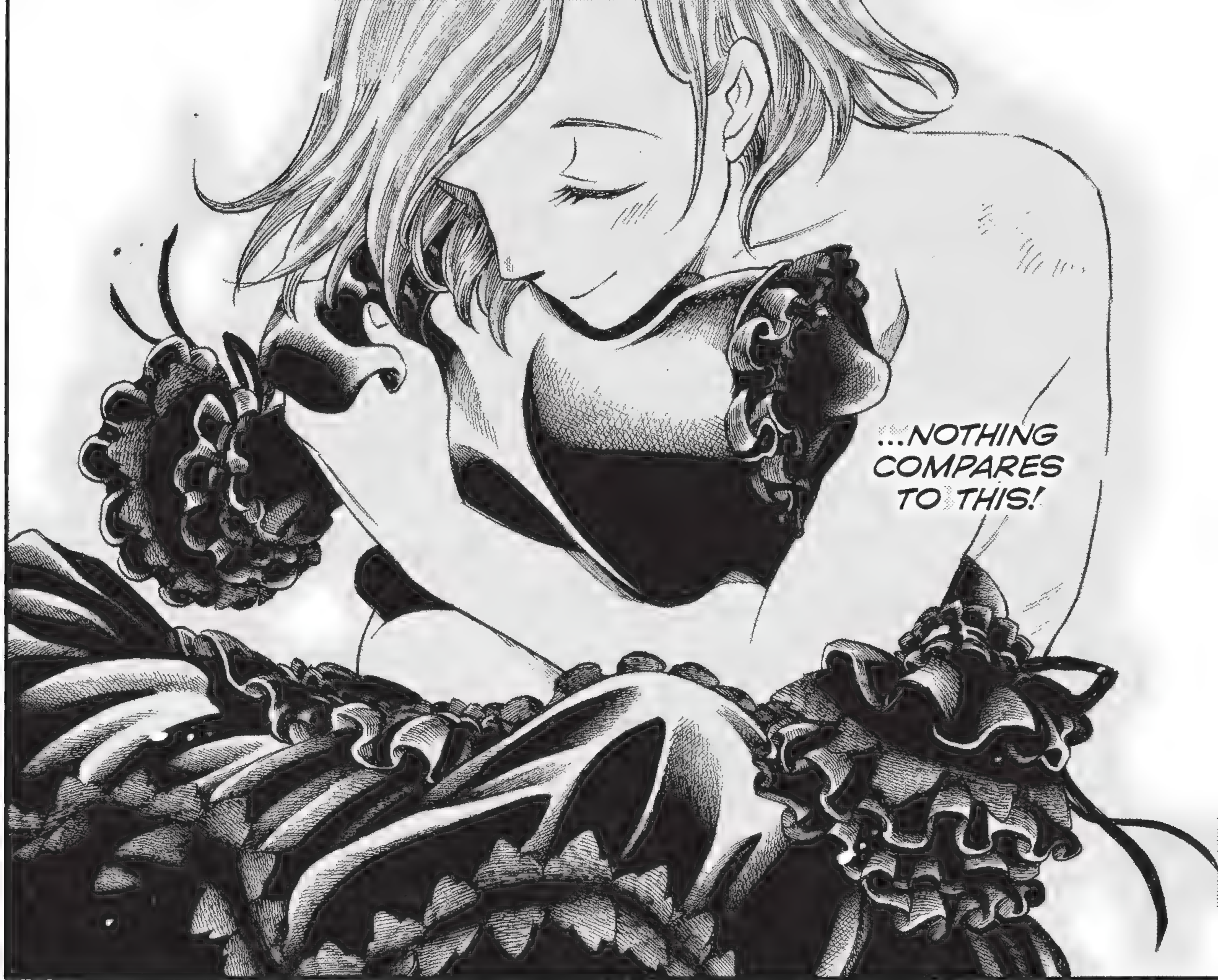
BUT THAT
WOULDN'T
HAVE BEEN
ENOUGH.
NOT
NEARLY.

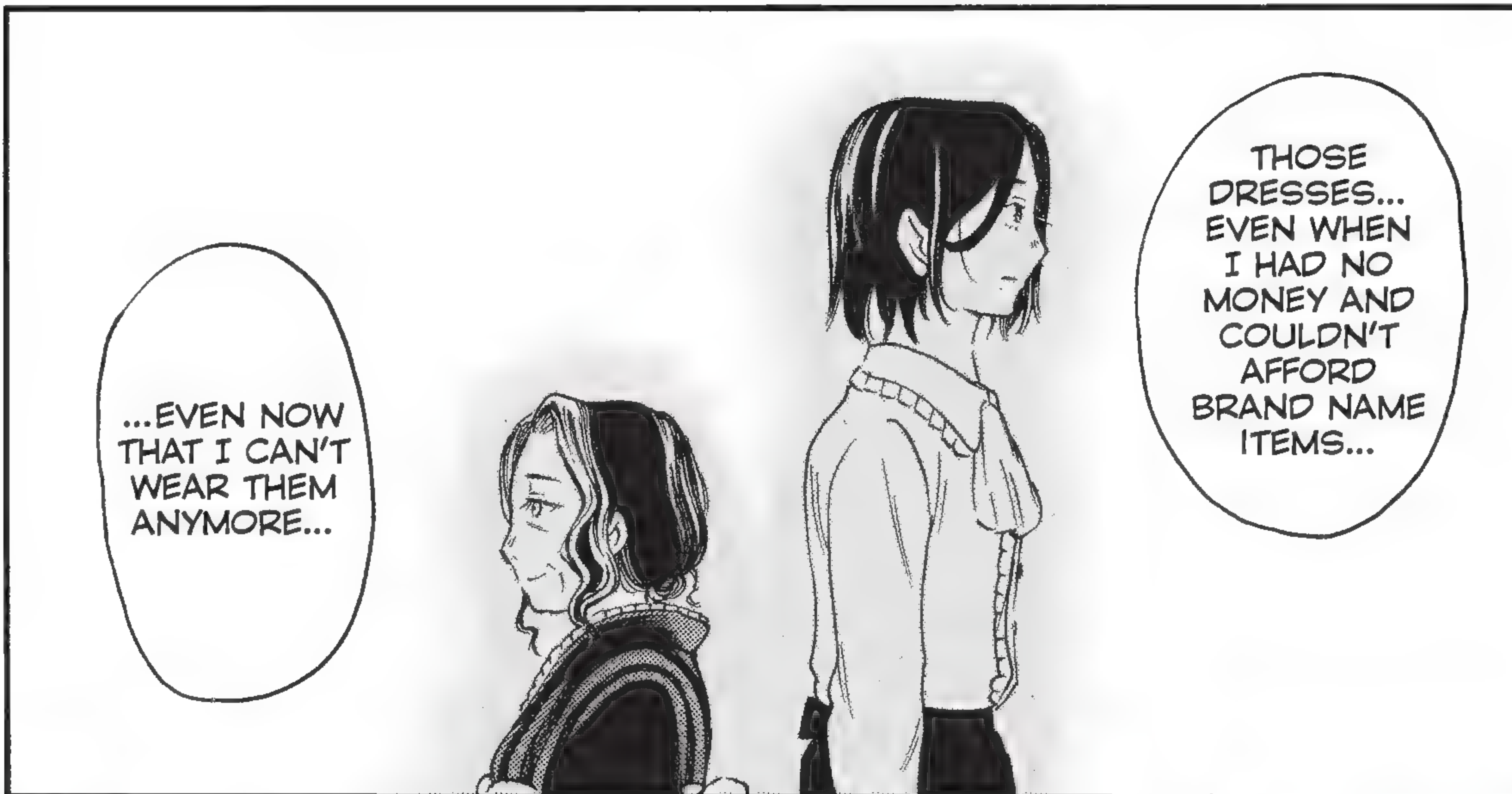


...IN THE END...

...OR WHERE
I GO...

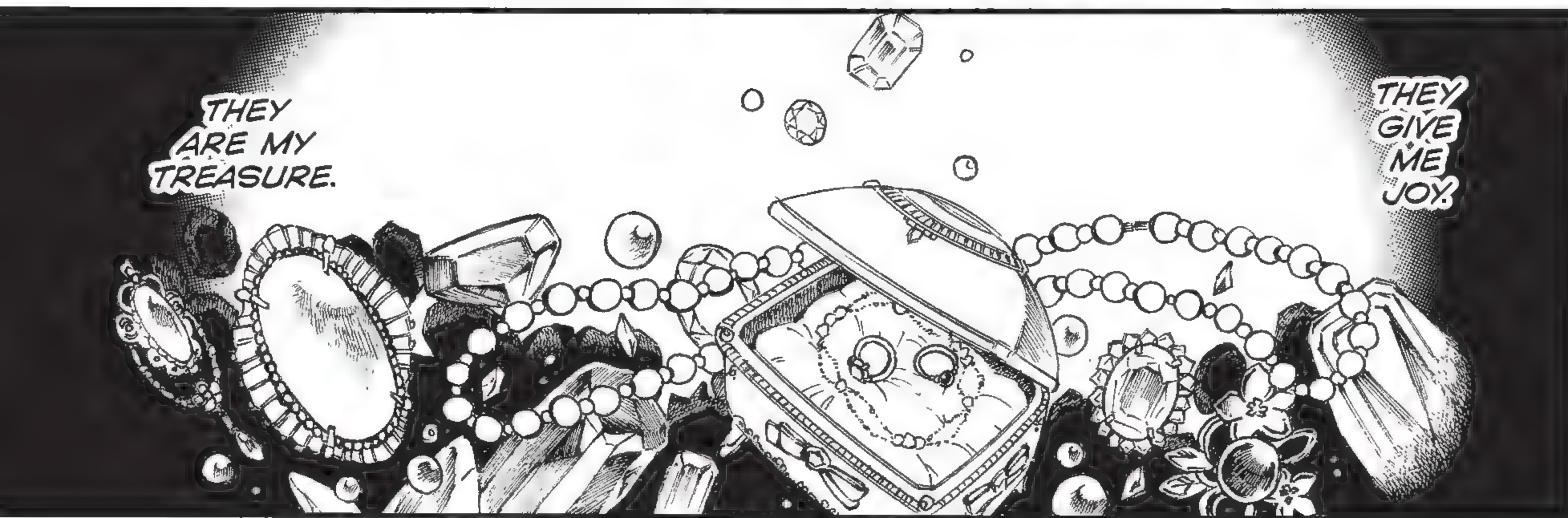
NO MATTER
WHO I'M
WITH...





...EVEN NOW
THAT I CAN'T
WEAR THEM
ANYMORE...

THOSE
DRESSES...
EVEN WHEN
I HAD NO
MONEY AND
COULDN'T
AFFORD
BRAND NAME
ITEMS...



THEY
ARE MY
TREASURE.

THEY
GIVE
ME
JOY.



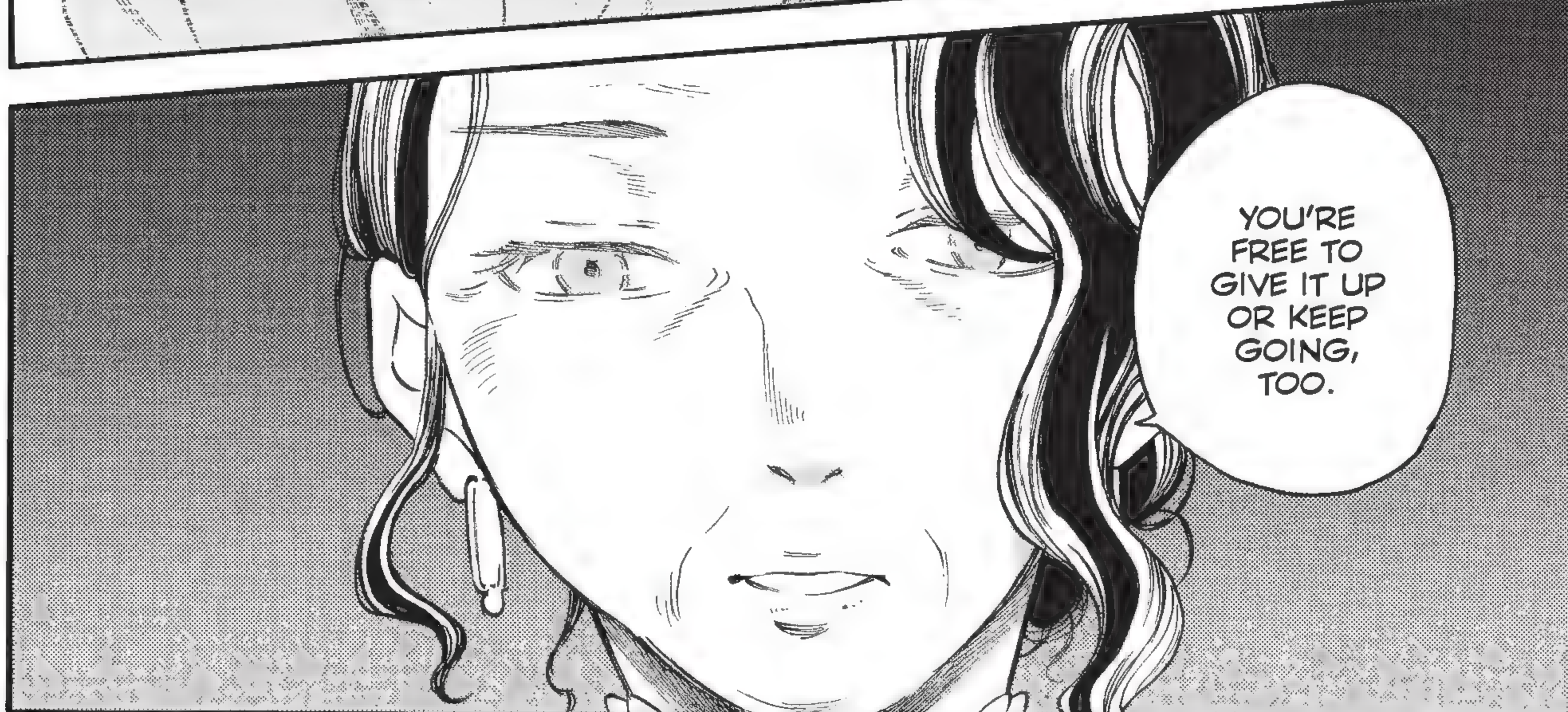
HOW
MUCH DO
YOU LOVE
YOUR
HOBBY?

NAGI-
SA...



...I DOUBT A
LITTLE THING
LIKE YOUR FRIEND
GIVING IT UP
COULD SHAKE
THAT LOVE.

IF YOU'VE
BEEN
DOING IT
FOR TEN
YEARS,
THEN AT
THE VERY
LEAST...

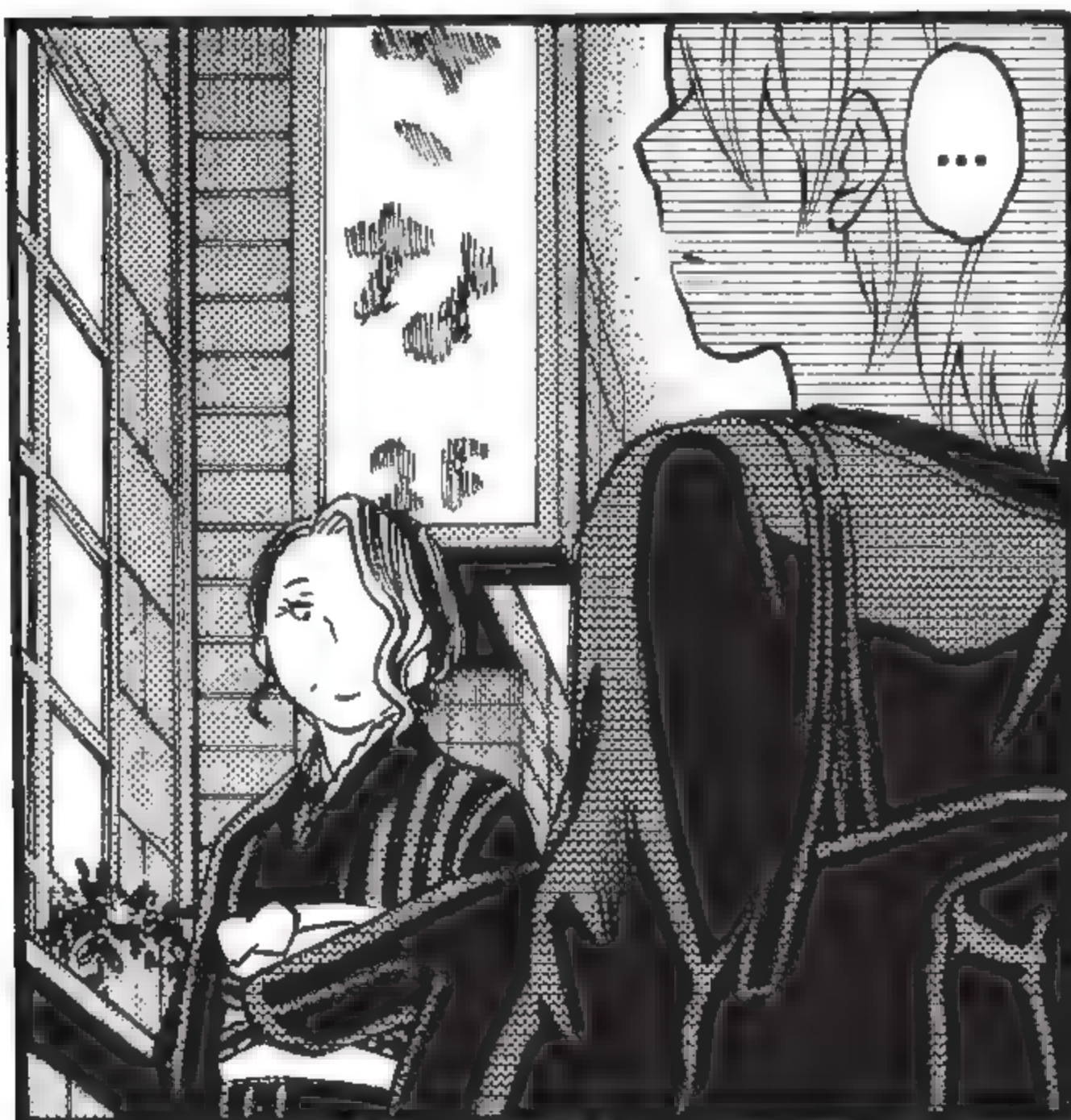
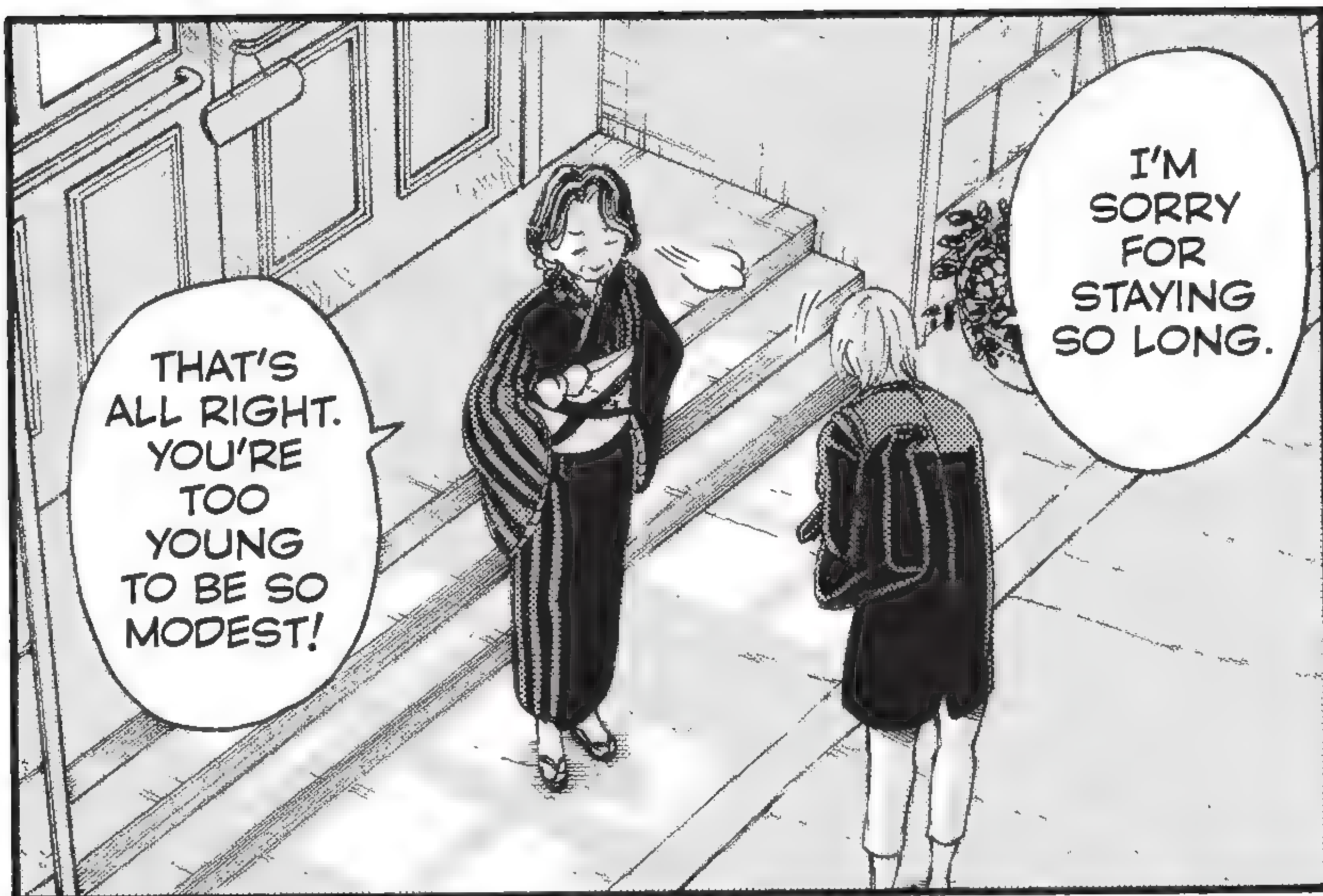


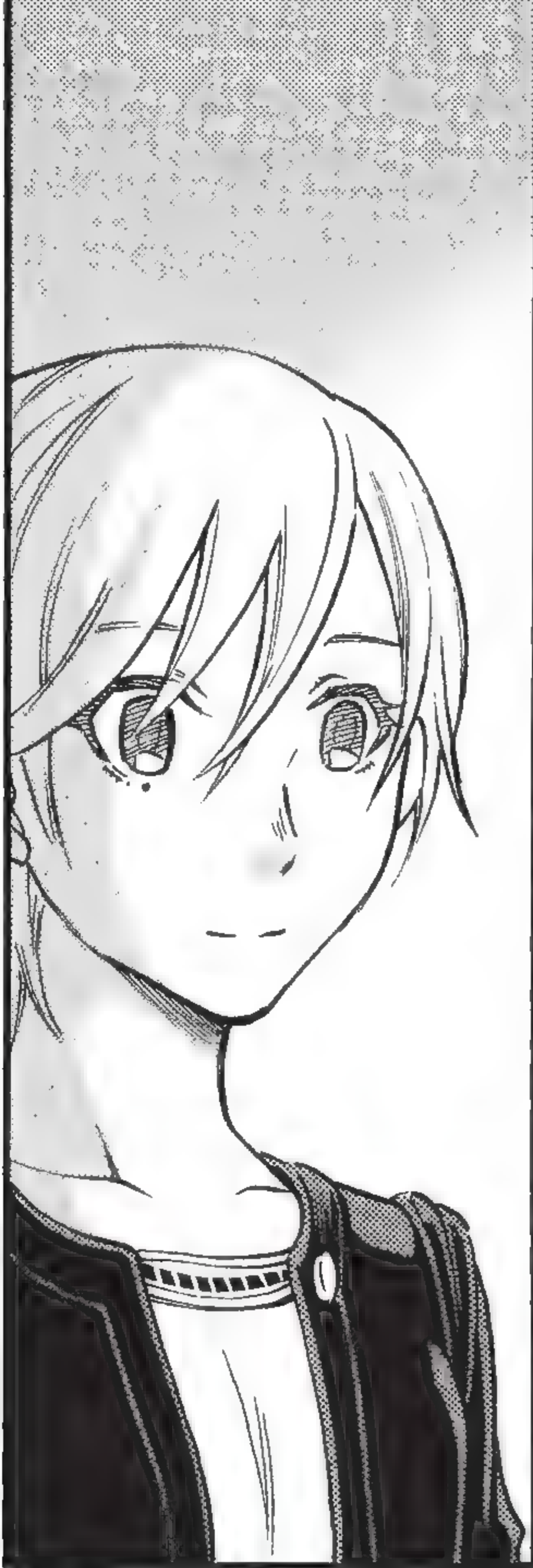
YOU'RE
FREE TO
GIVE IT UP
OR KEEP
GOING,
TOO.



SO WHY
DON'T
YOU GIVE
IT SOME
LONG,
CAREFUL
THOUGHT?







...YOU DON'T
HAVE ANY
REGRETS.



WELL,
I'LL SEE
YOU
LATER.

I
WILL.



CLACK



CLACK



CLACK

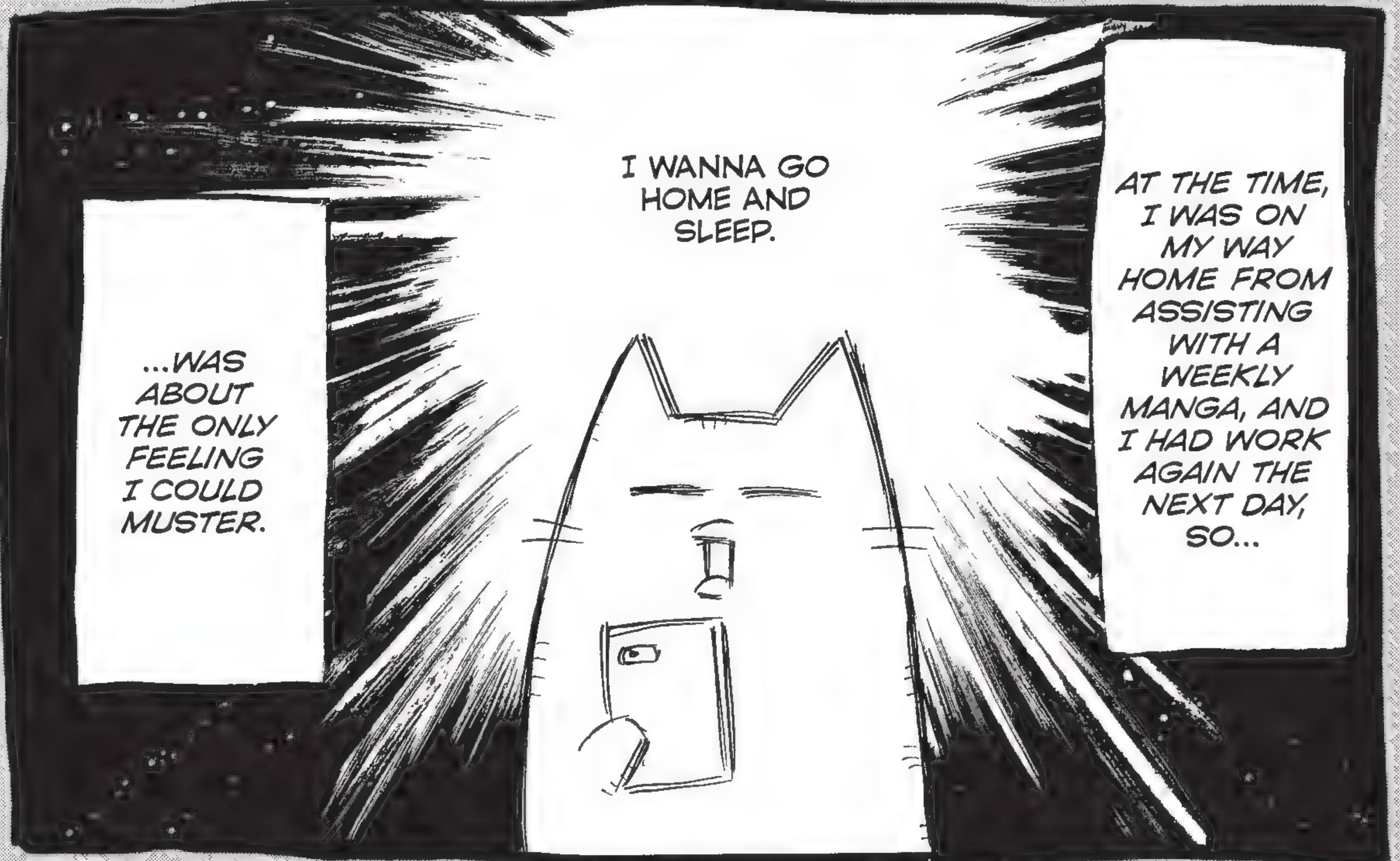
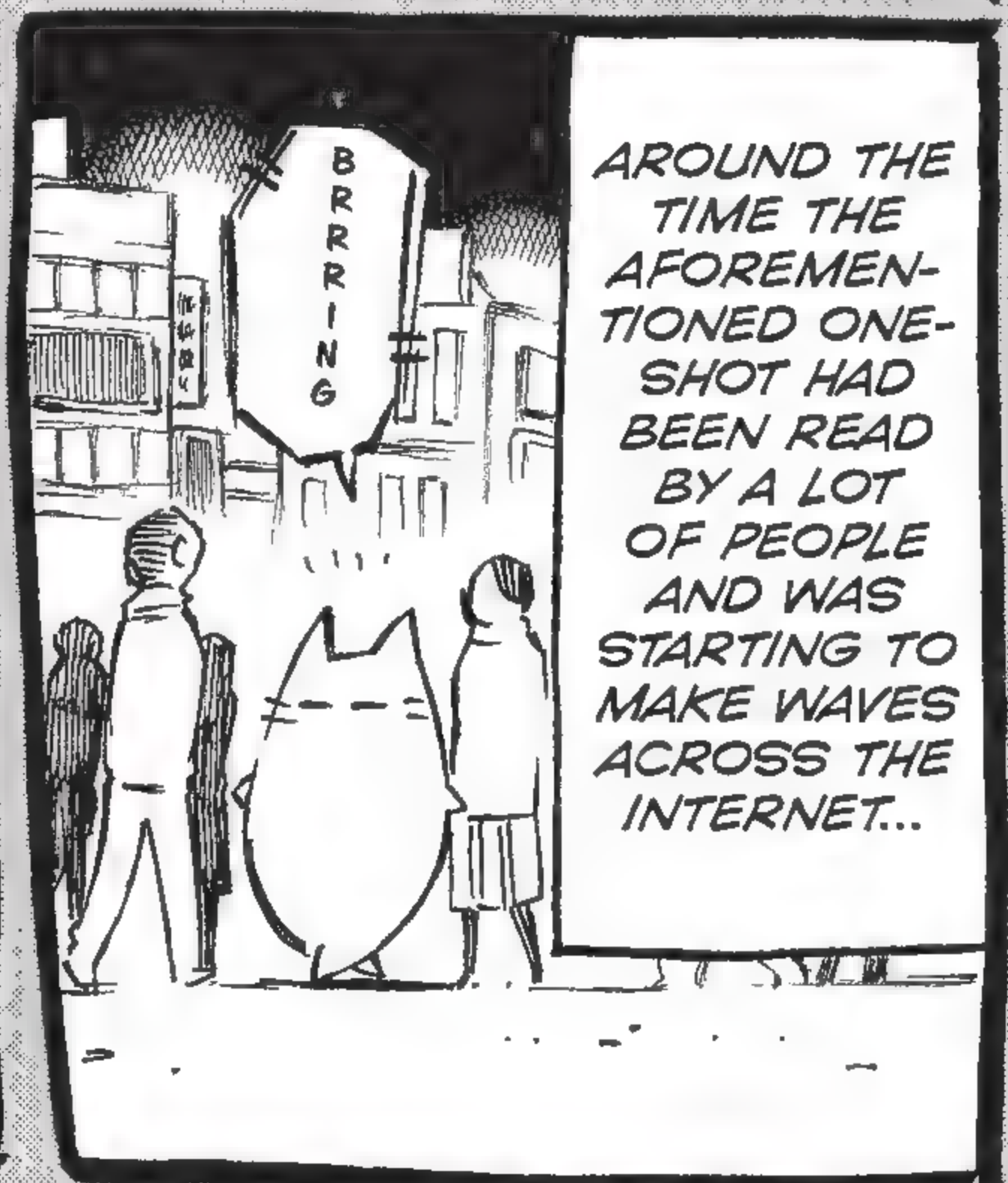
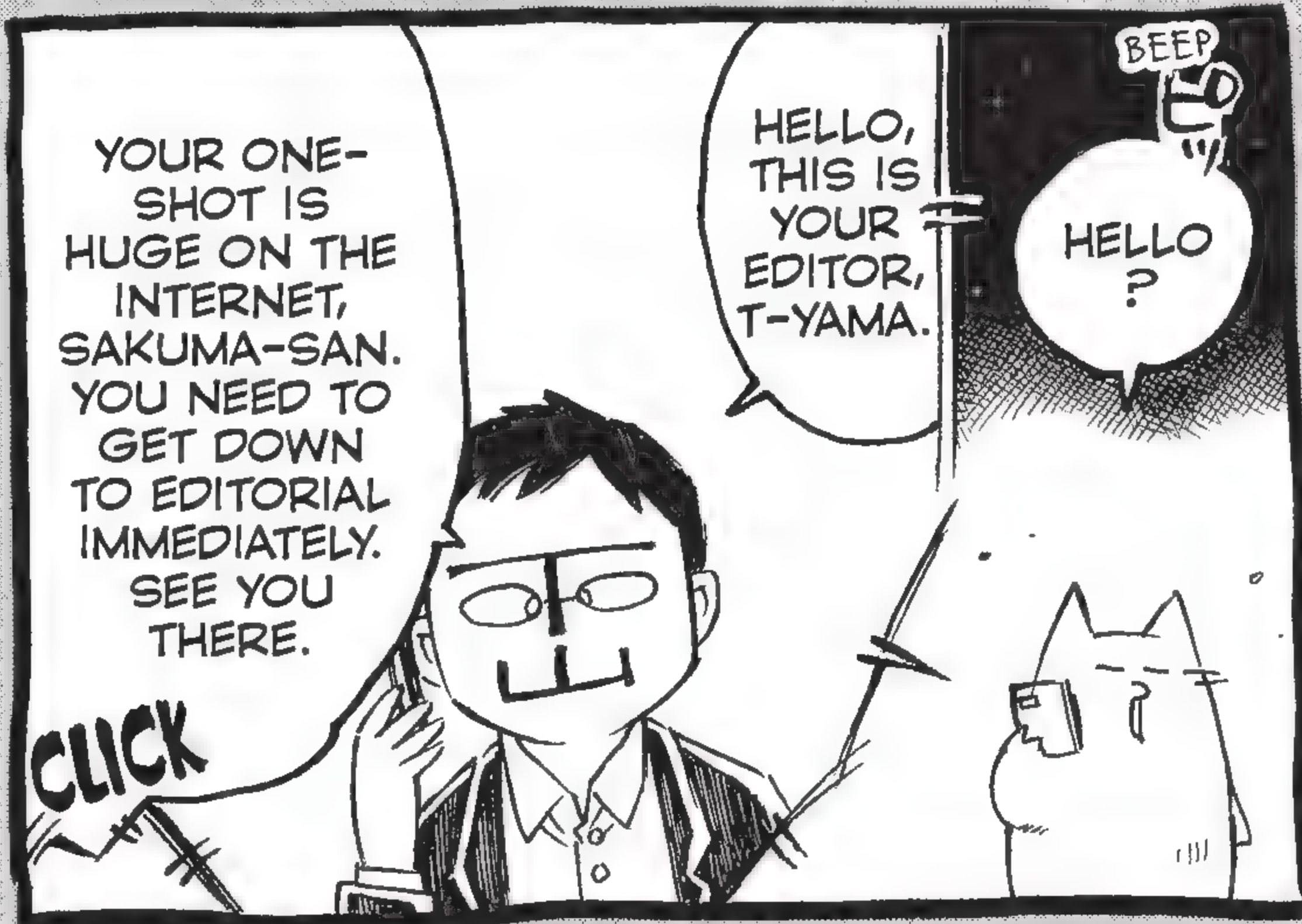
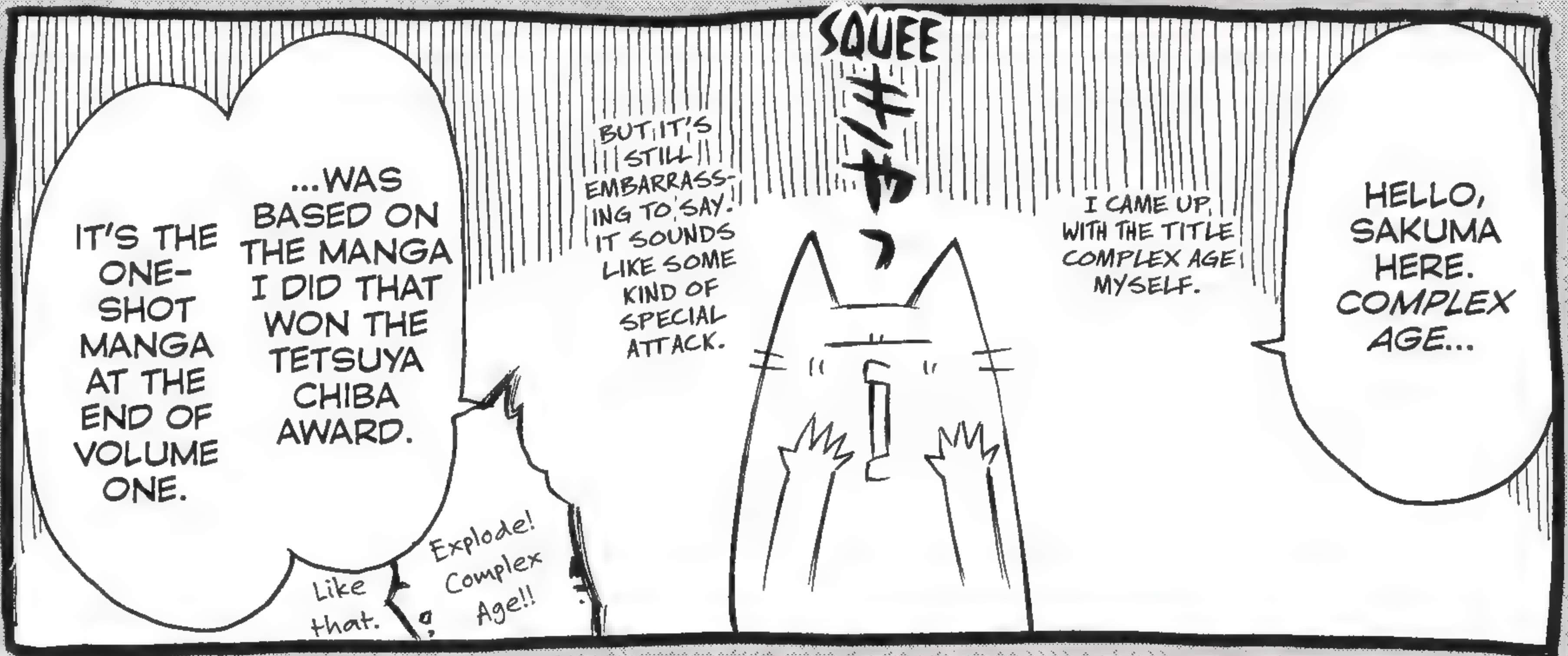
CLACK

...TO ME?

WHAT IS COSPLAY...

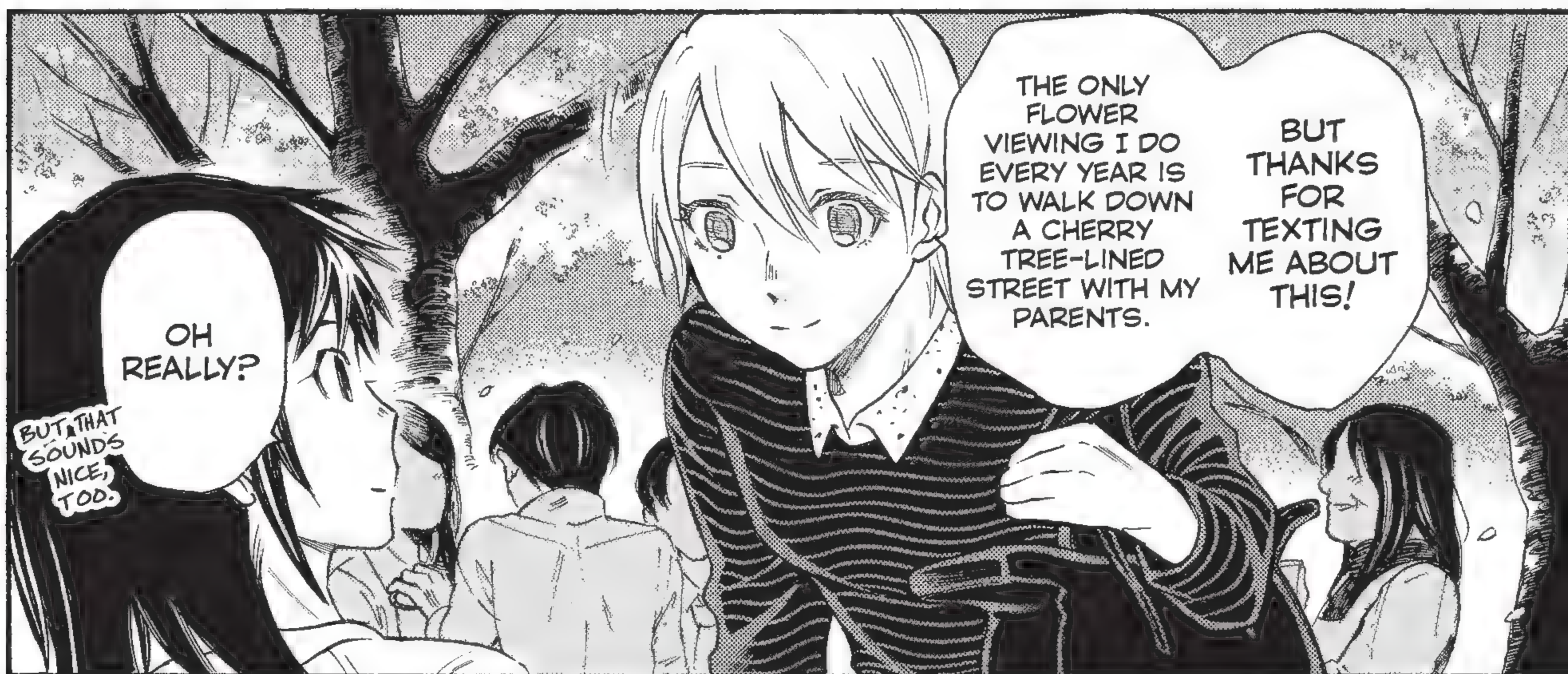


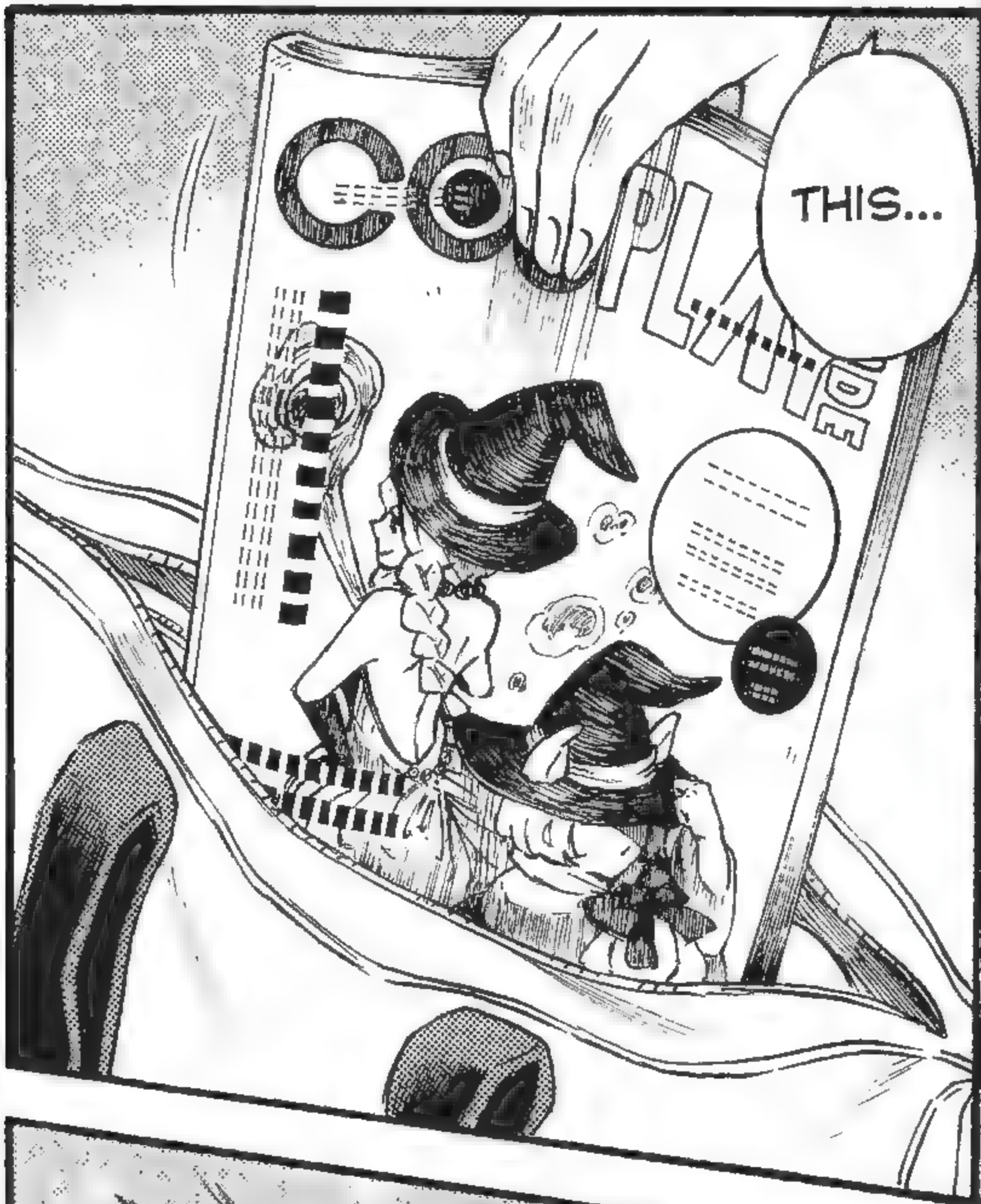
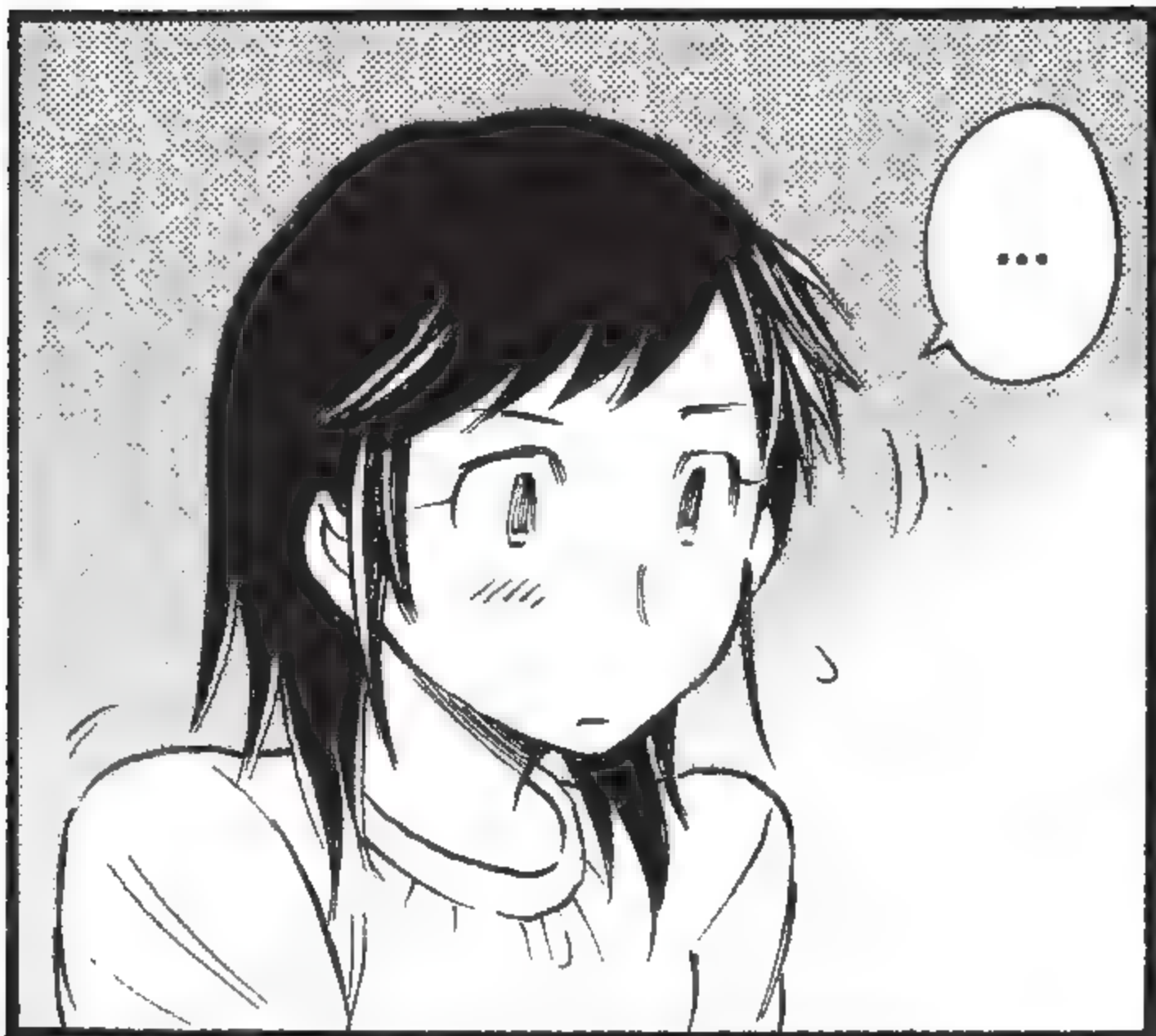
n.44 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n.45

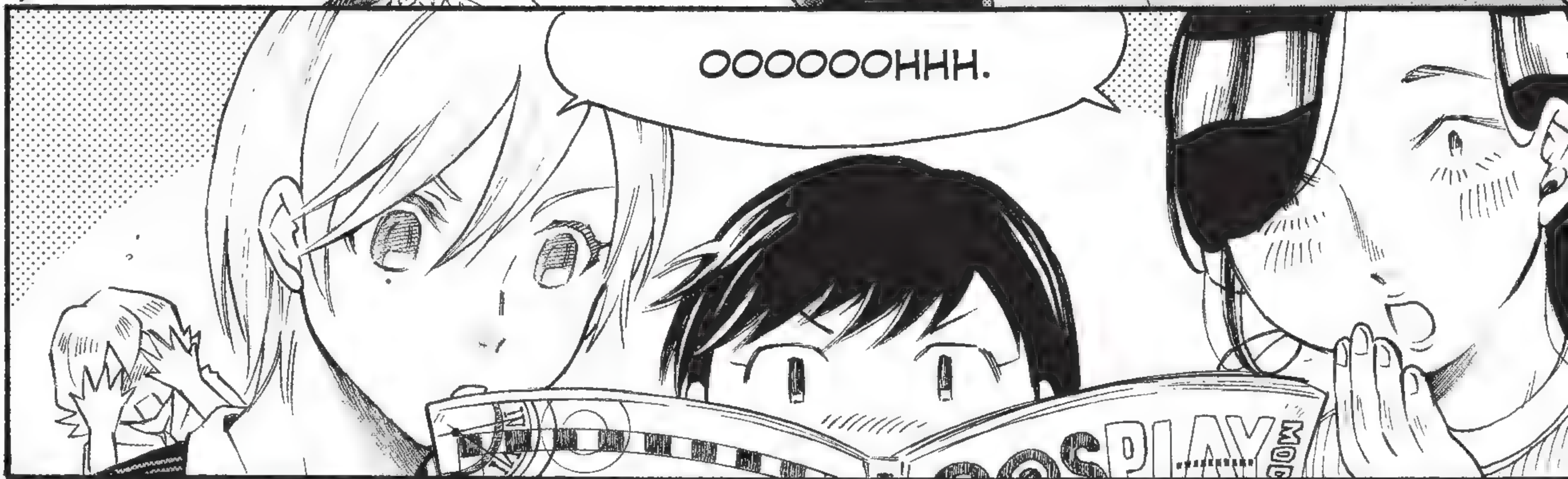
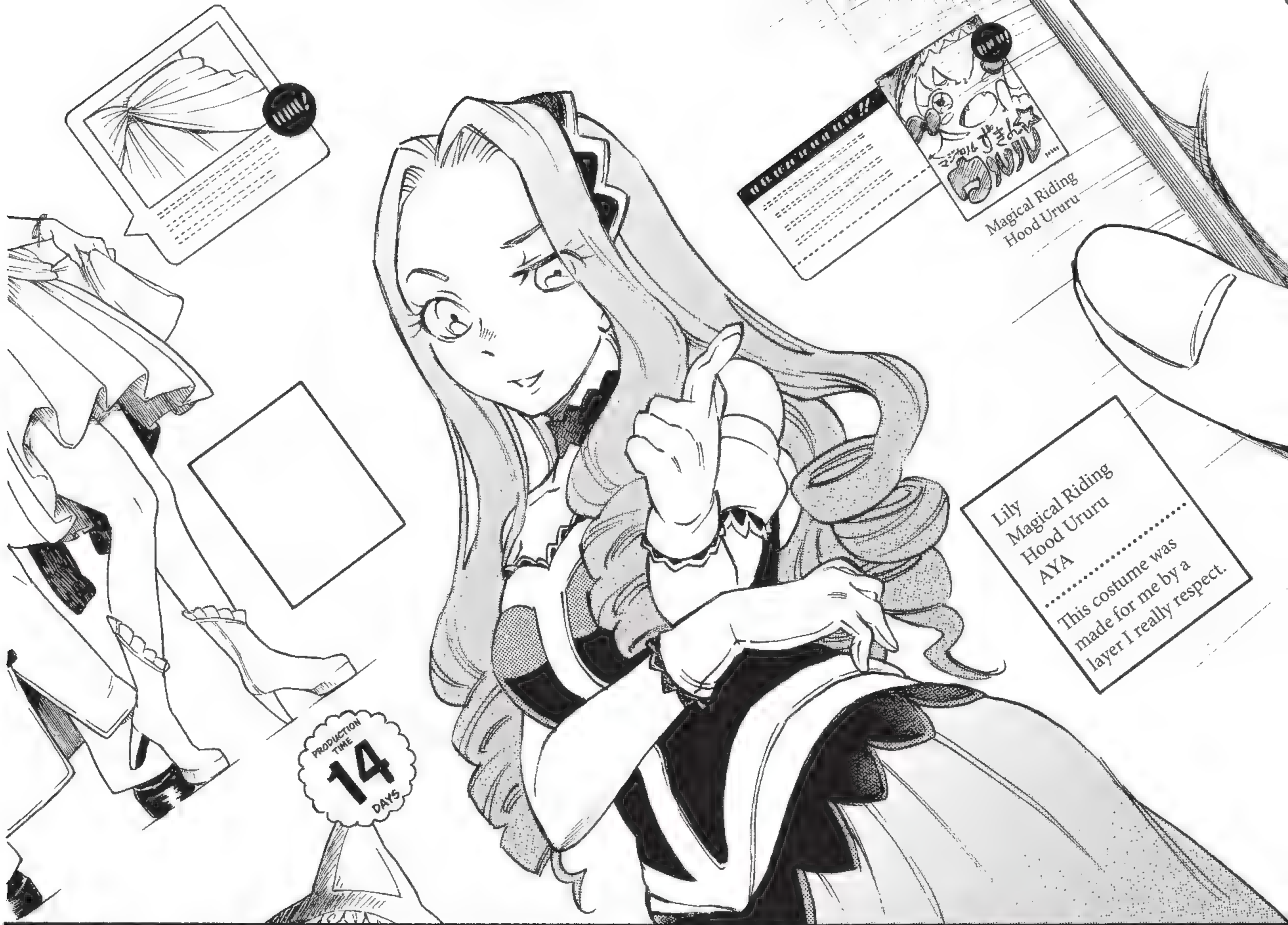




n.45
Complex age

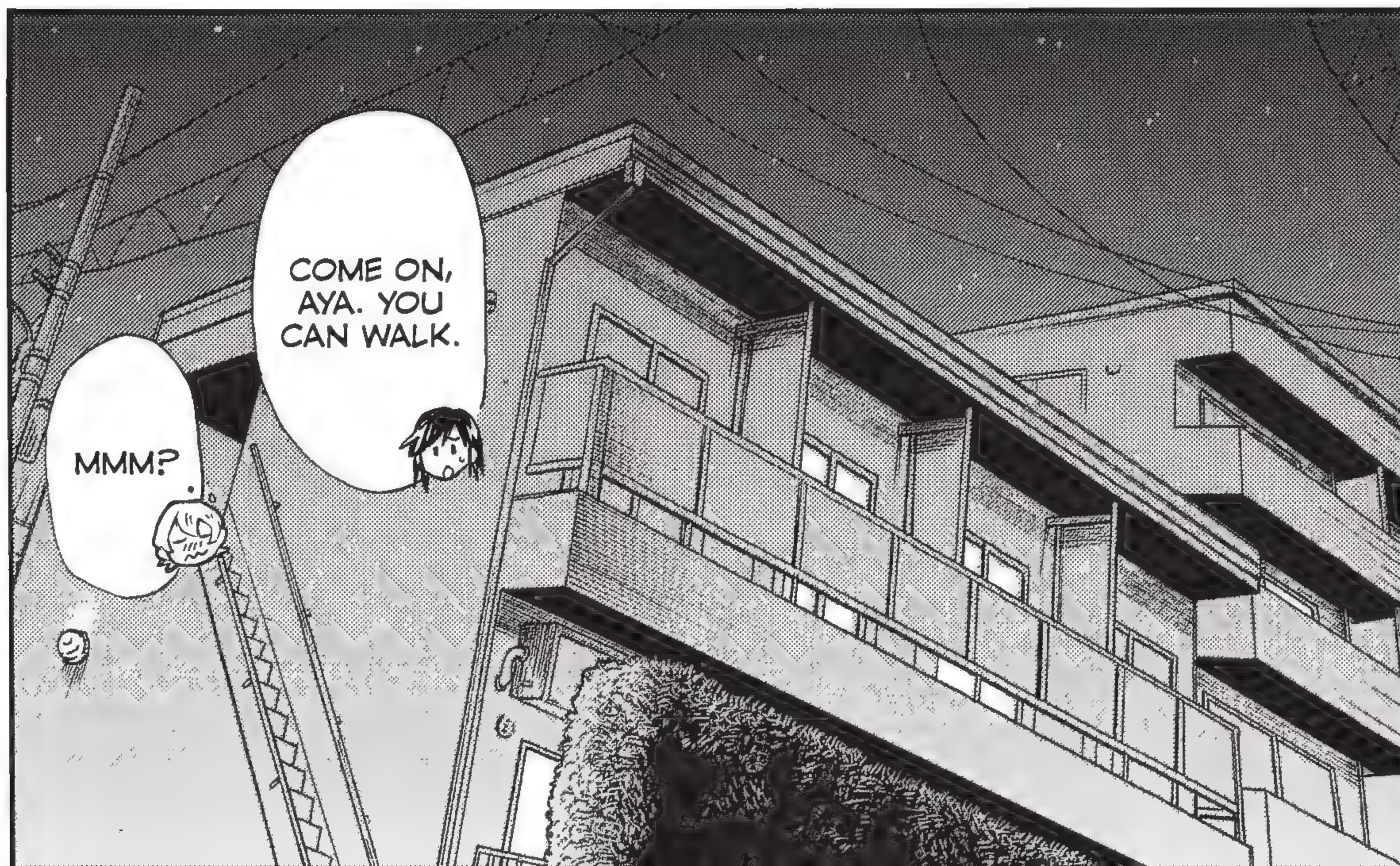


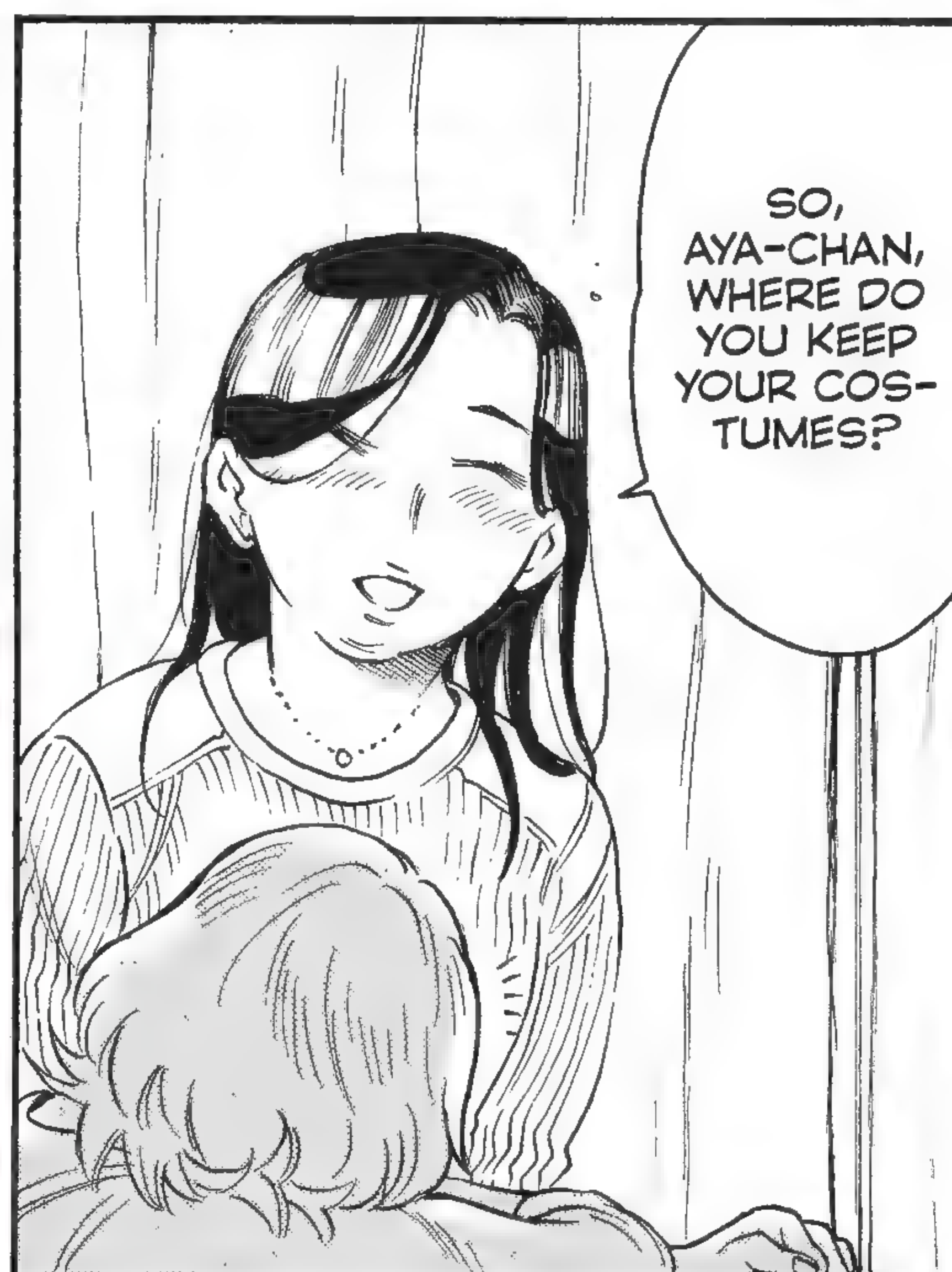
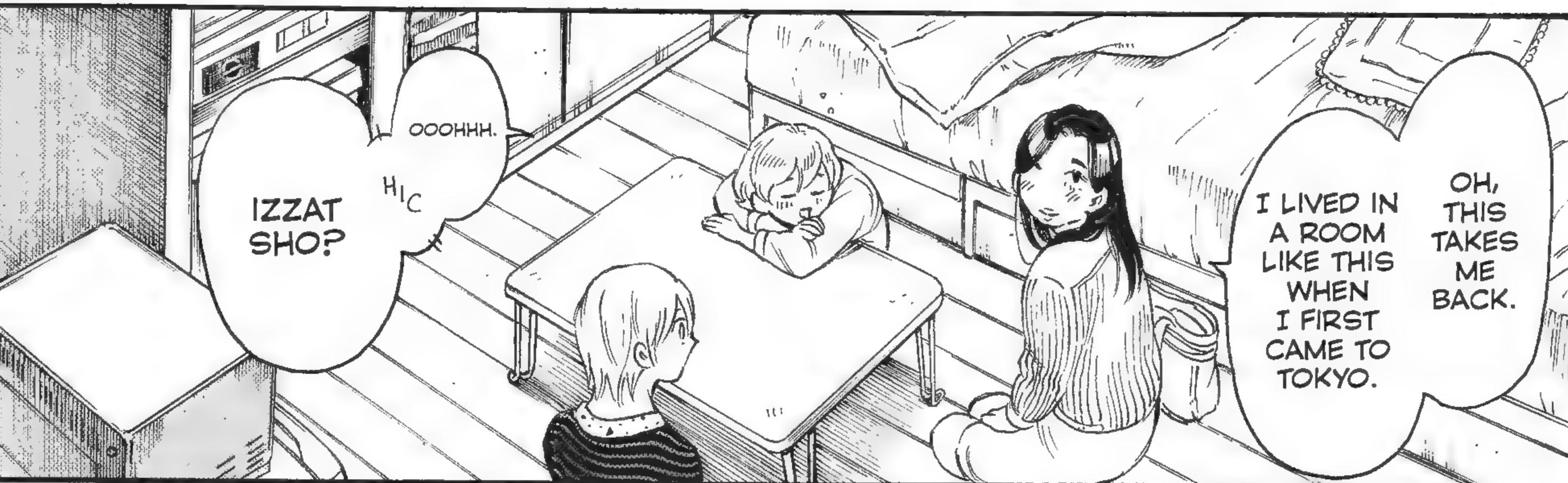


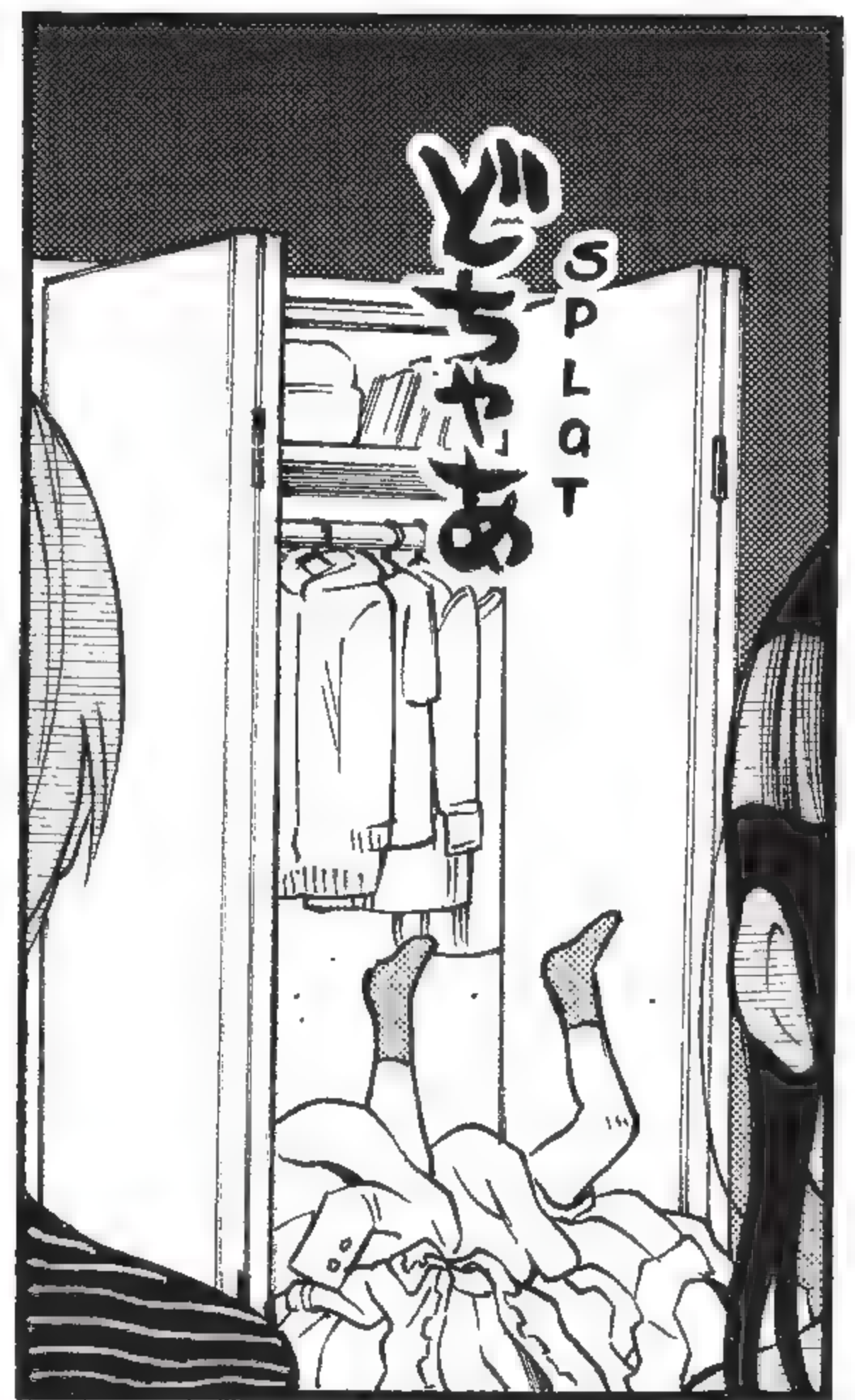


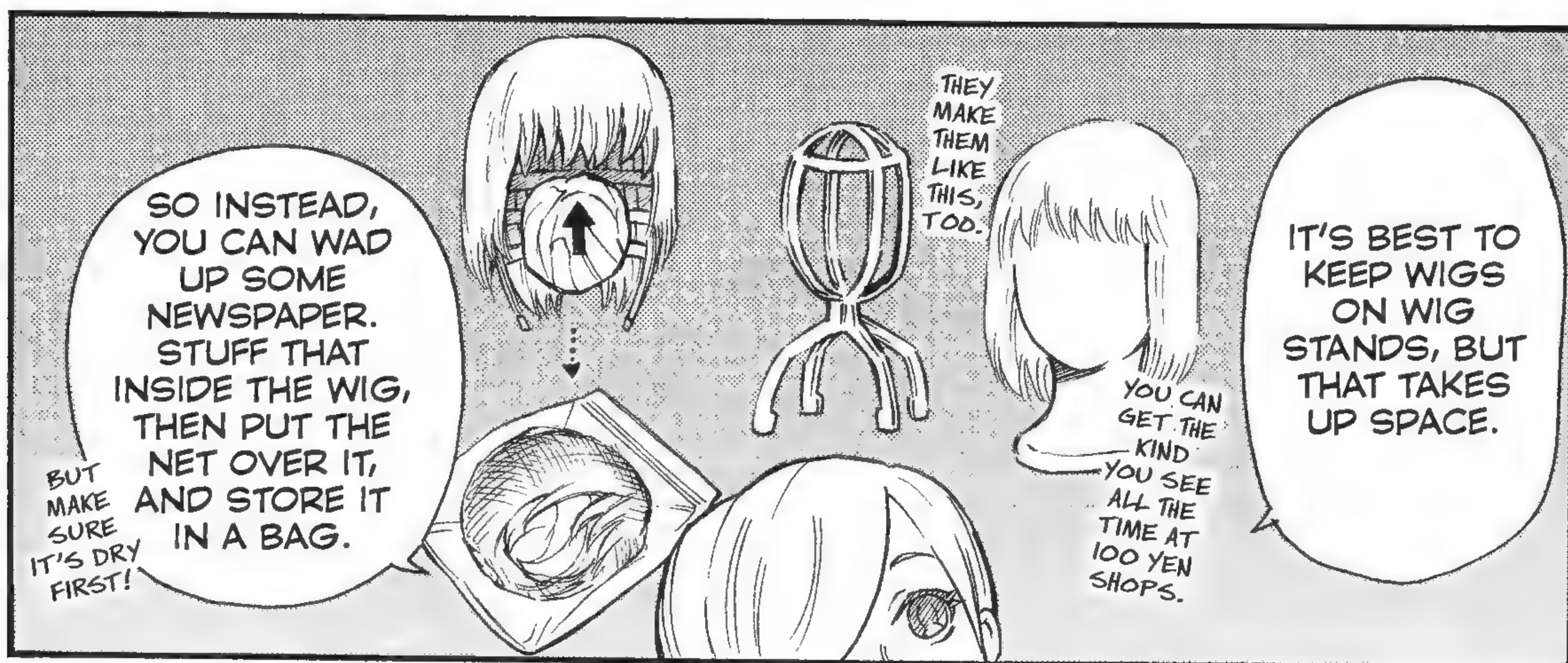


Can[right]: Oolong; Can[left]: Kinmugi (alcohol)



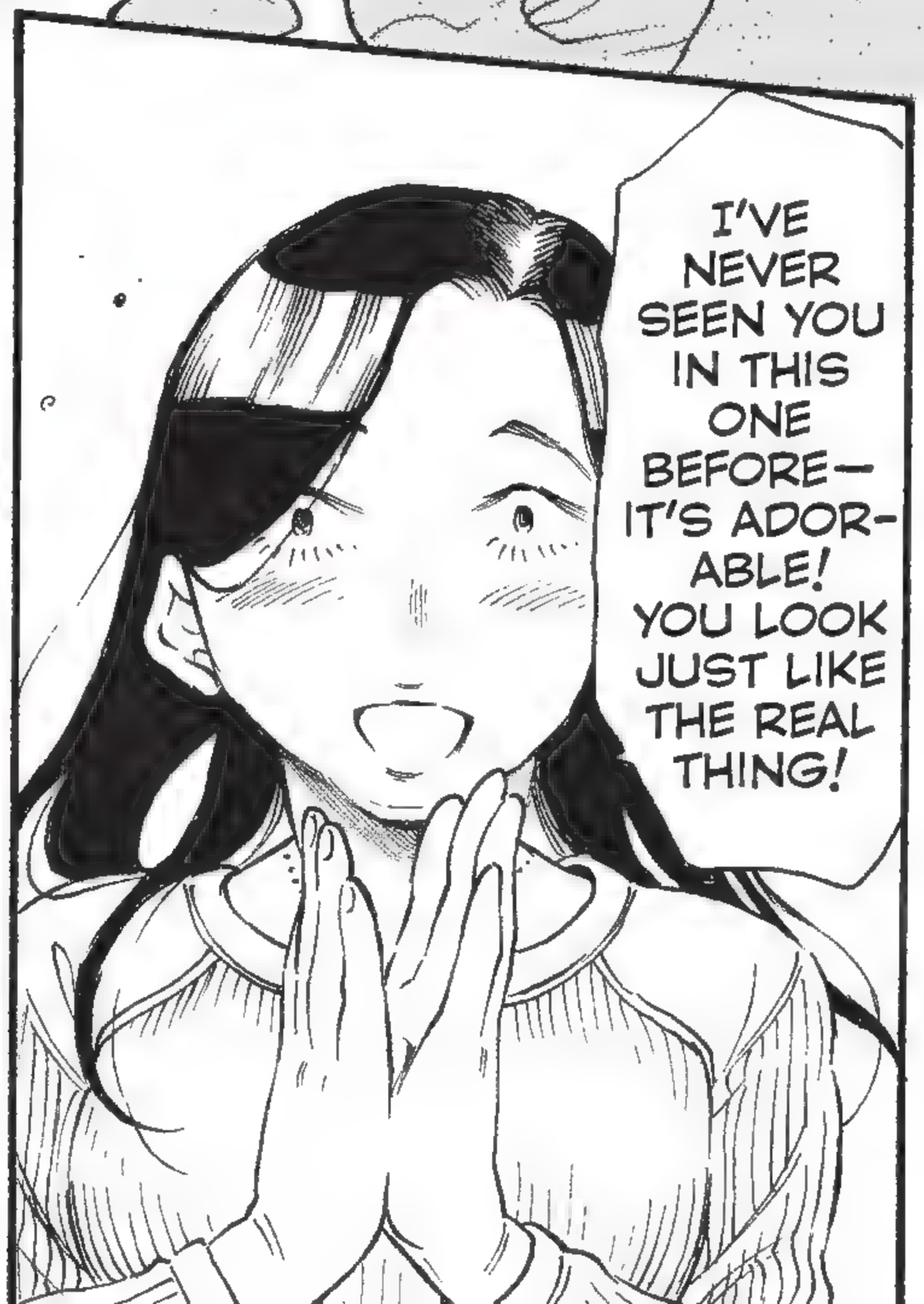
















WHY
ARE YOU
WEAR-
ING
...

AYA...



GRIN

YEAH.

IT'S
IMPORTANT
TO GIVE
ALL YOUR
COSTUMES
A CHANCE
TO BE
WORN!



SEE
YOU
LATER.

I'M
SORRY.
THANKS.

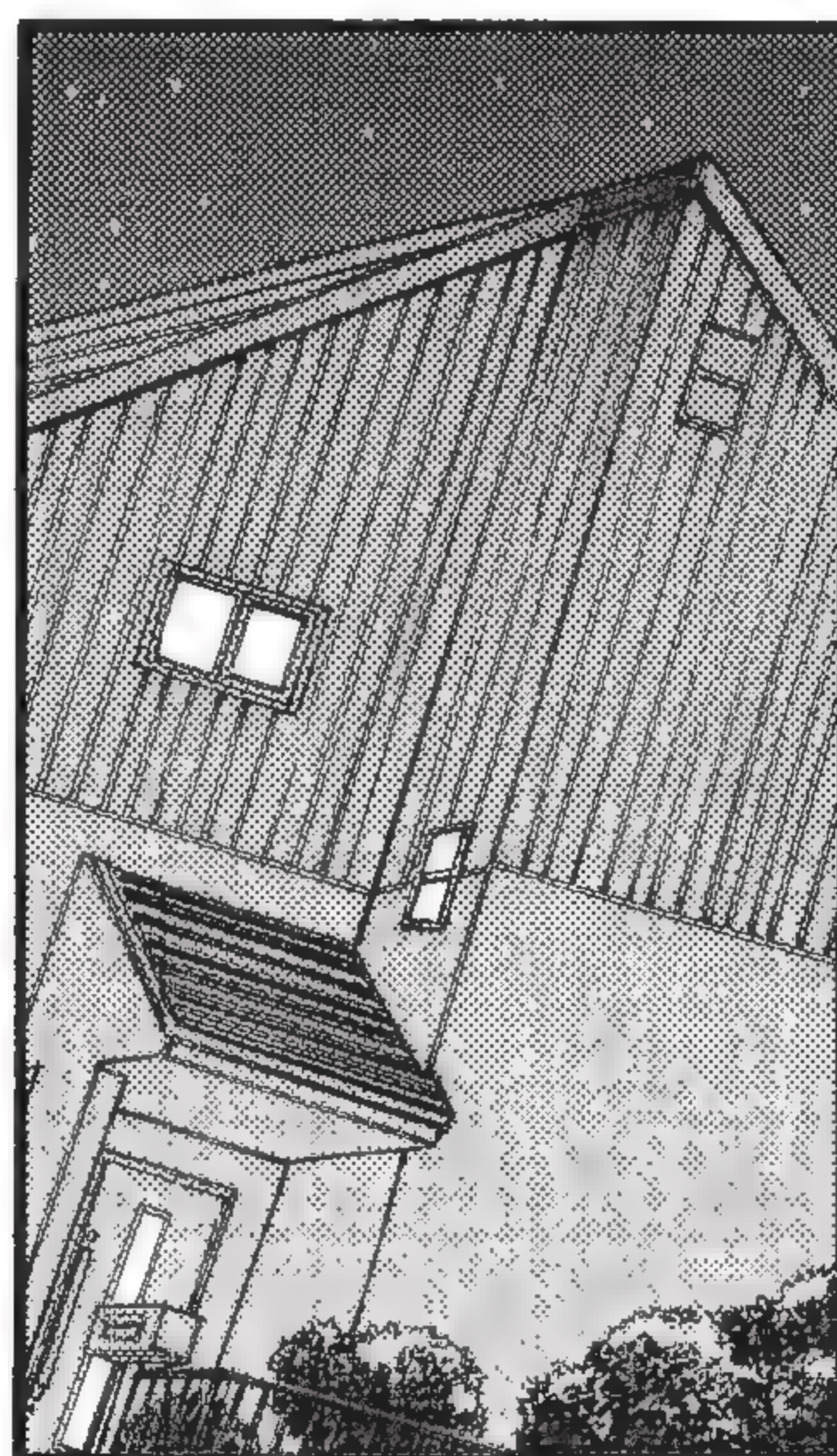
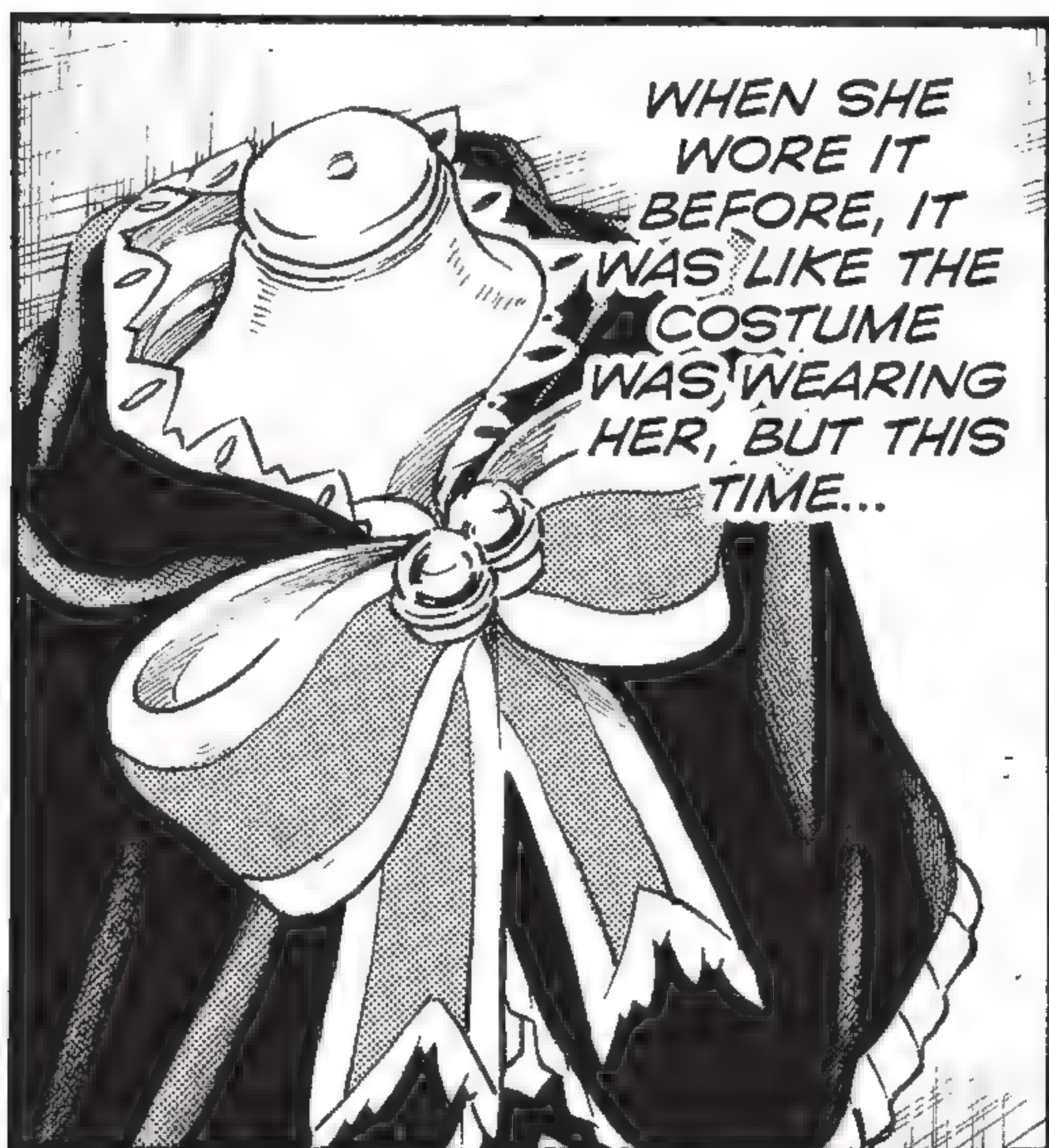
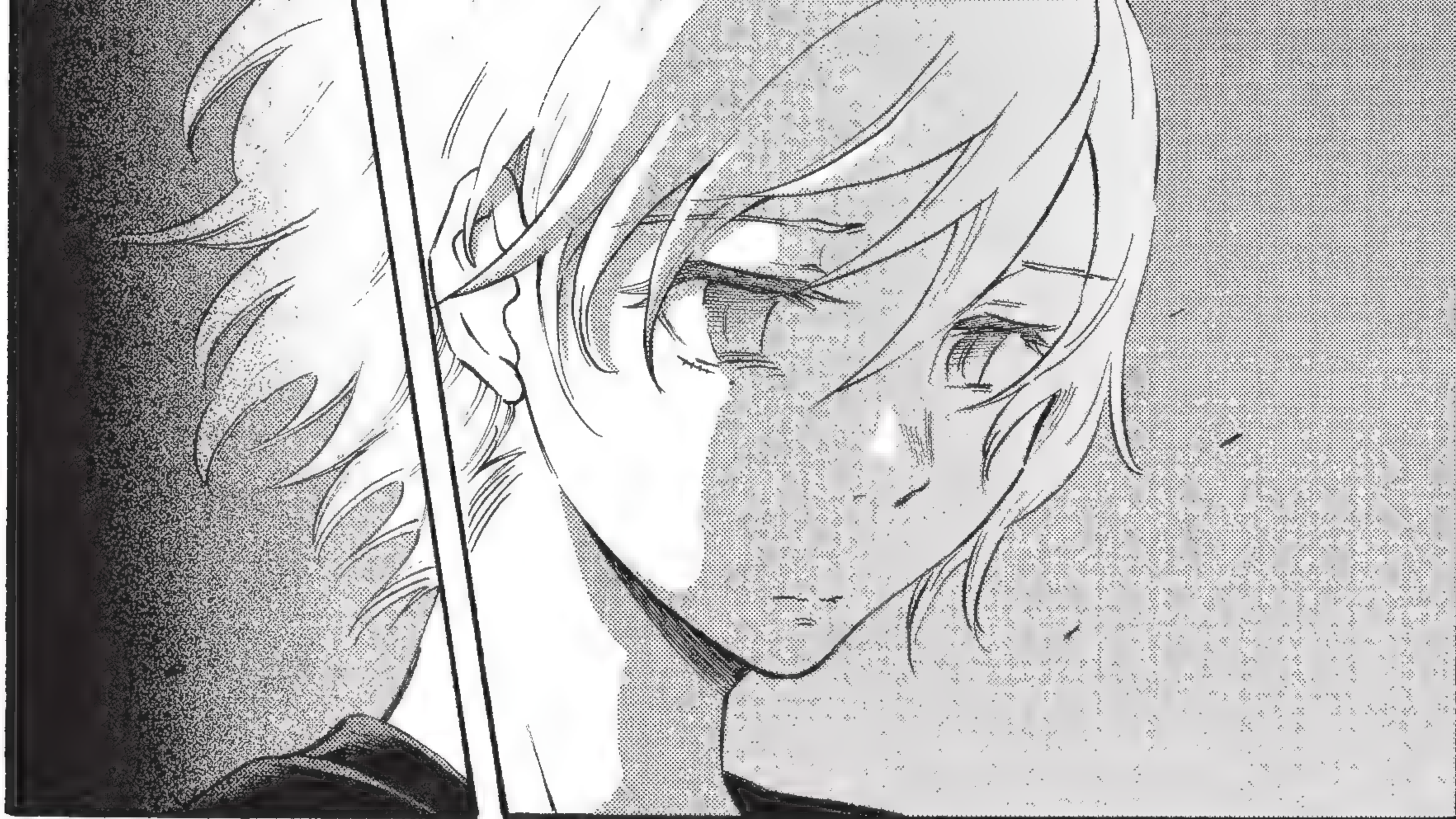


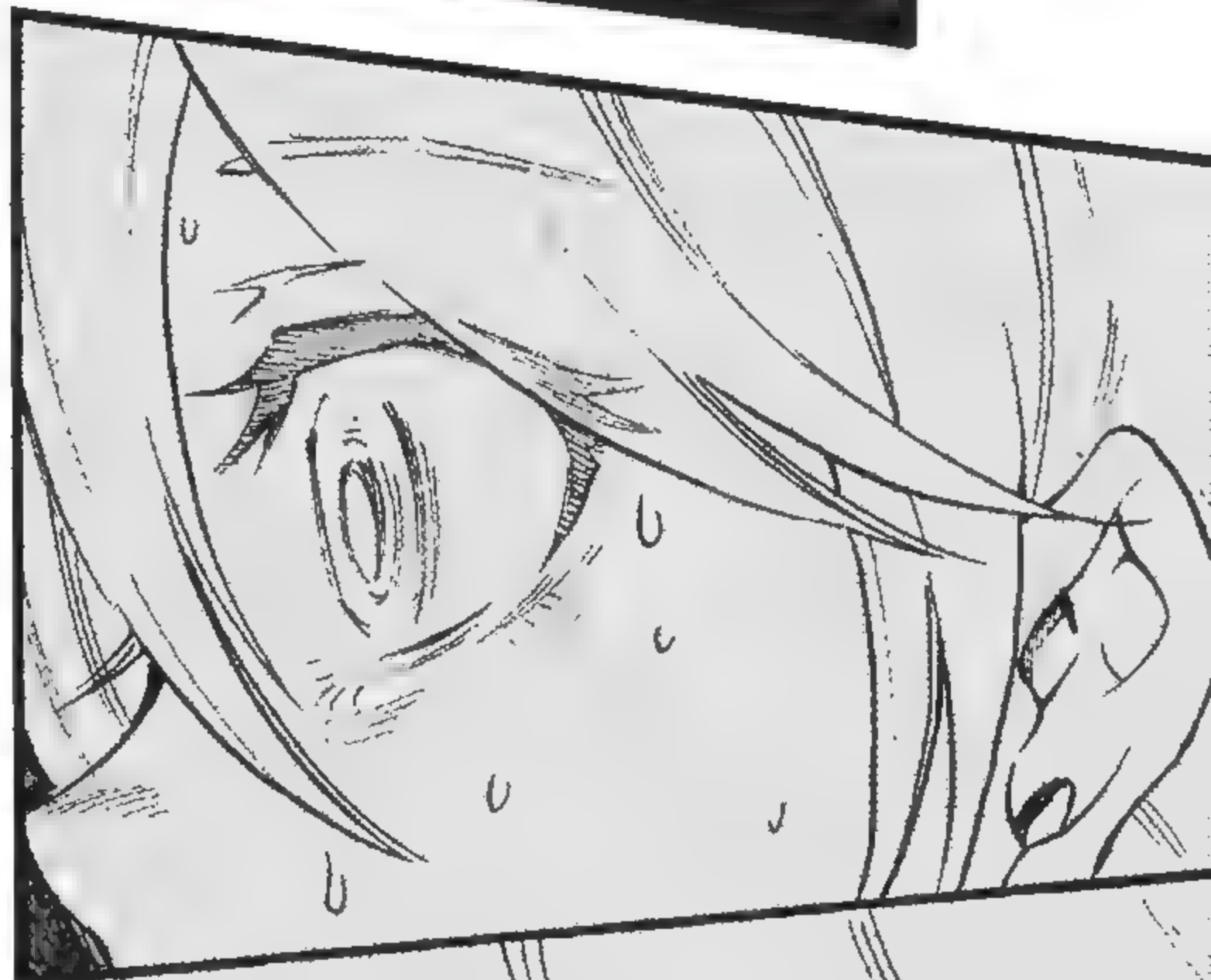
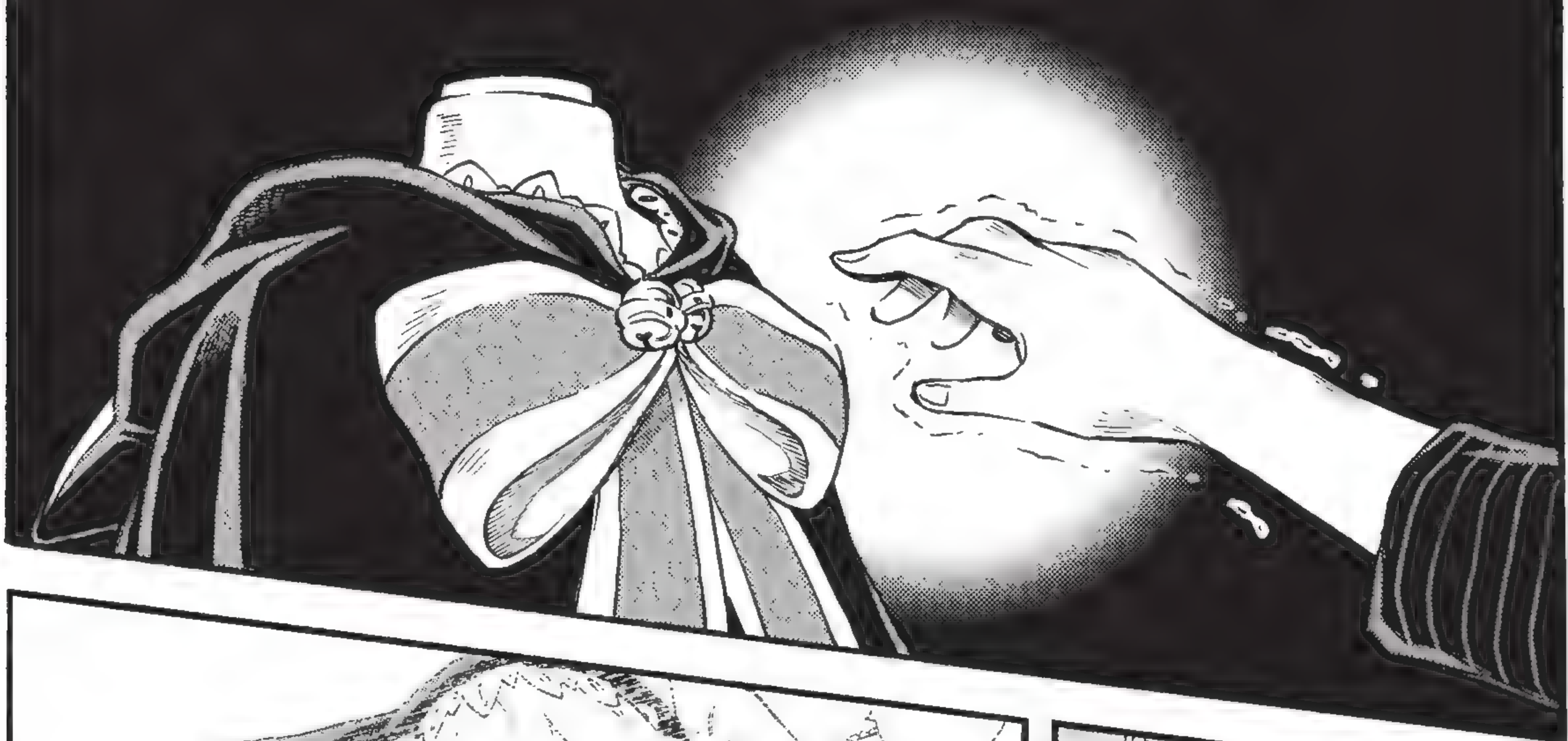
SHUT
/ 10
9

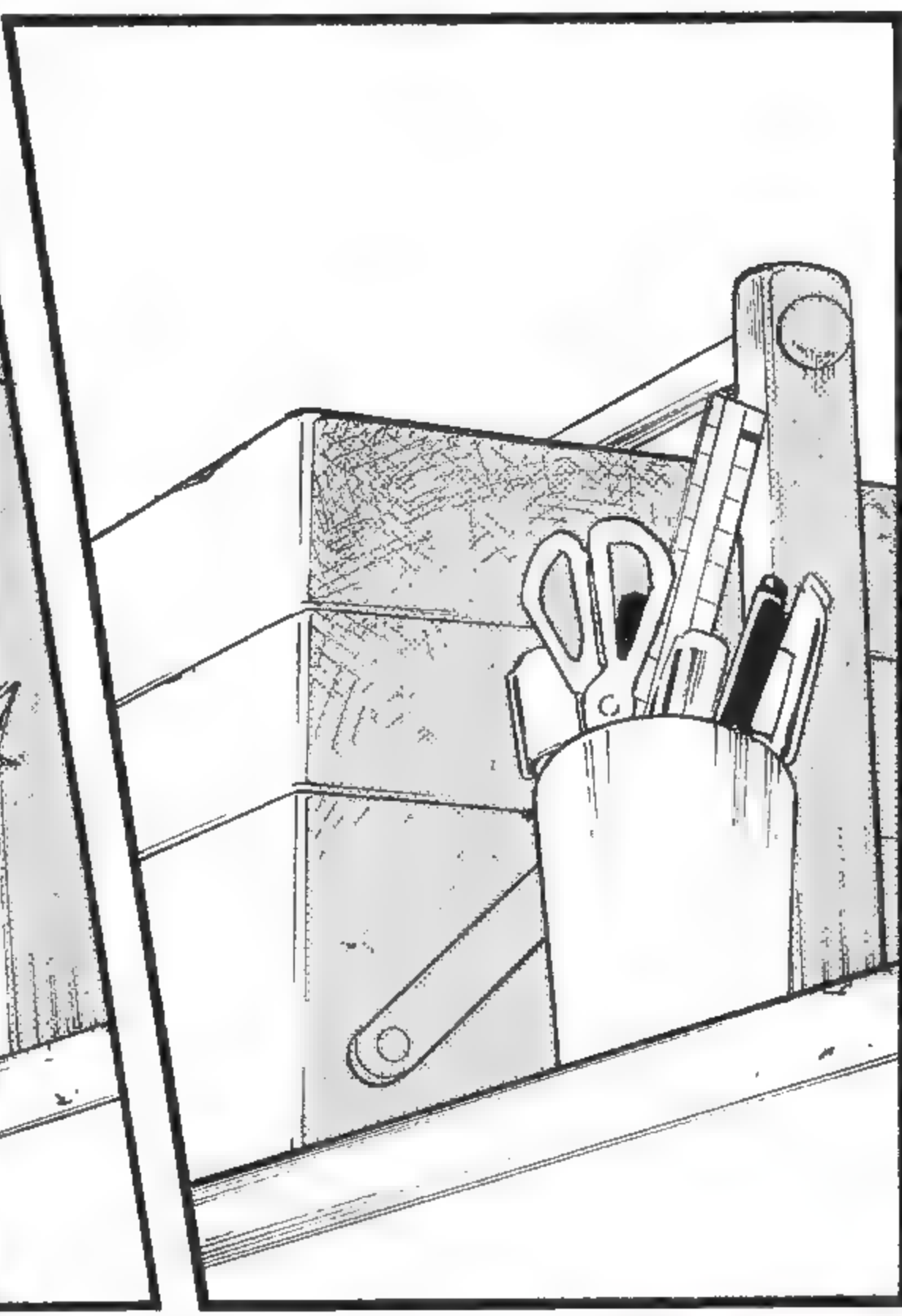
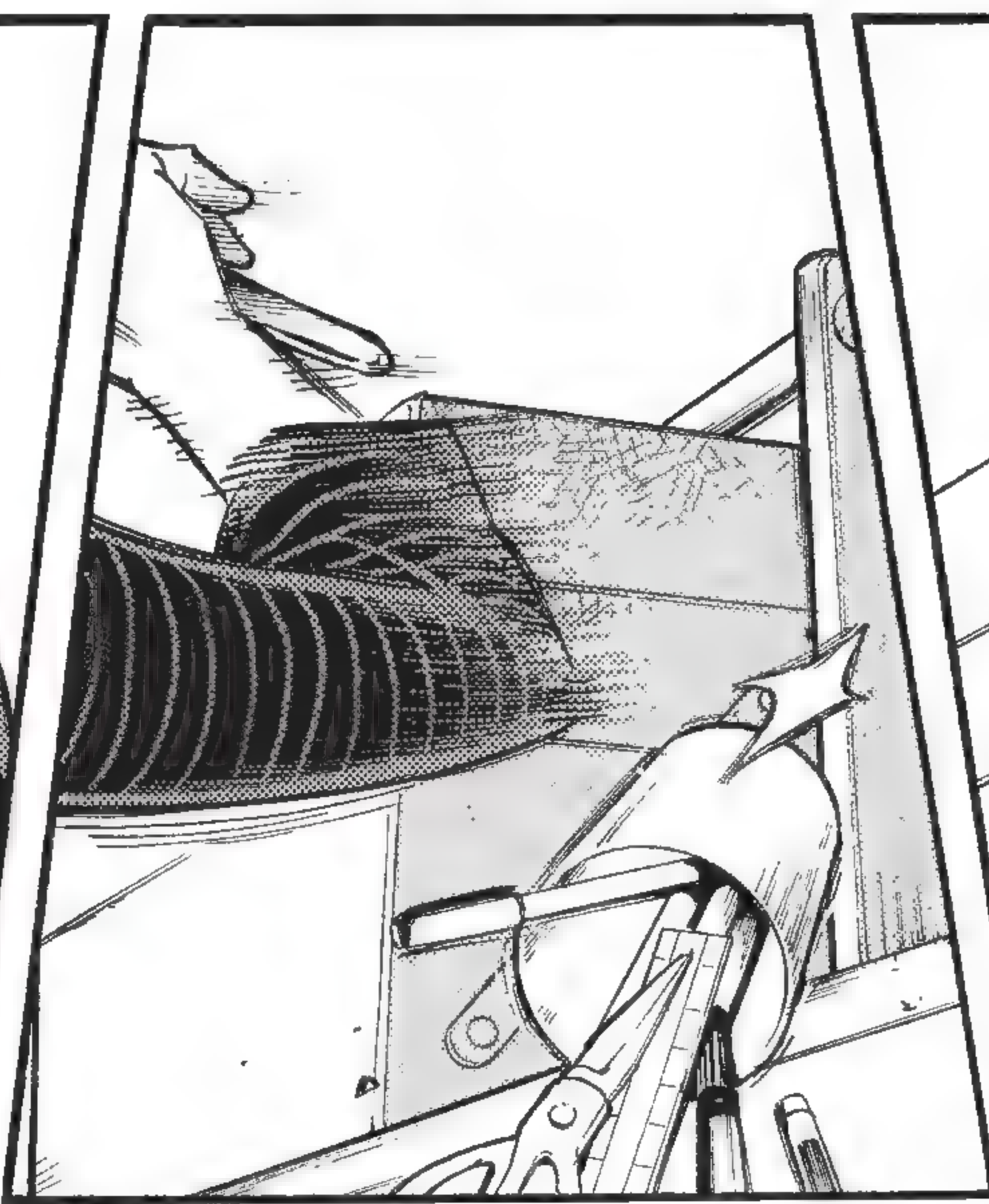
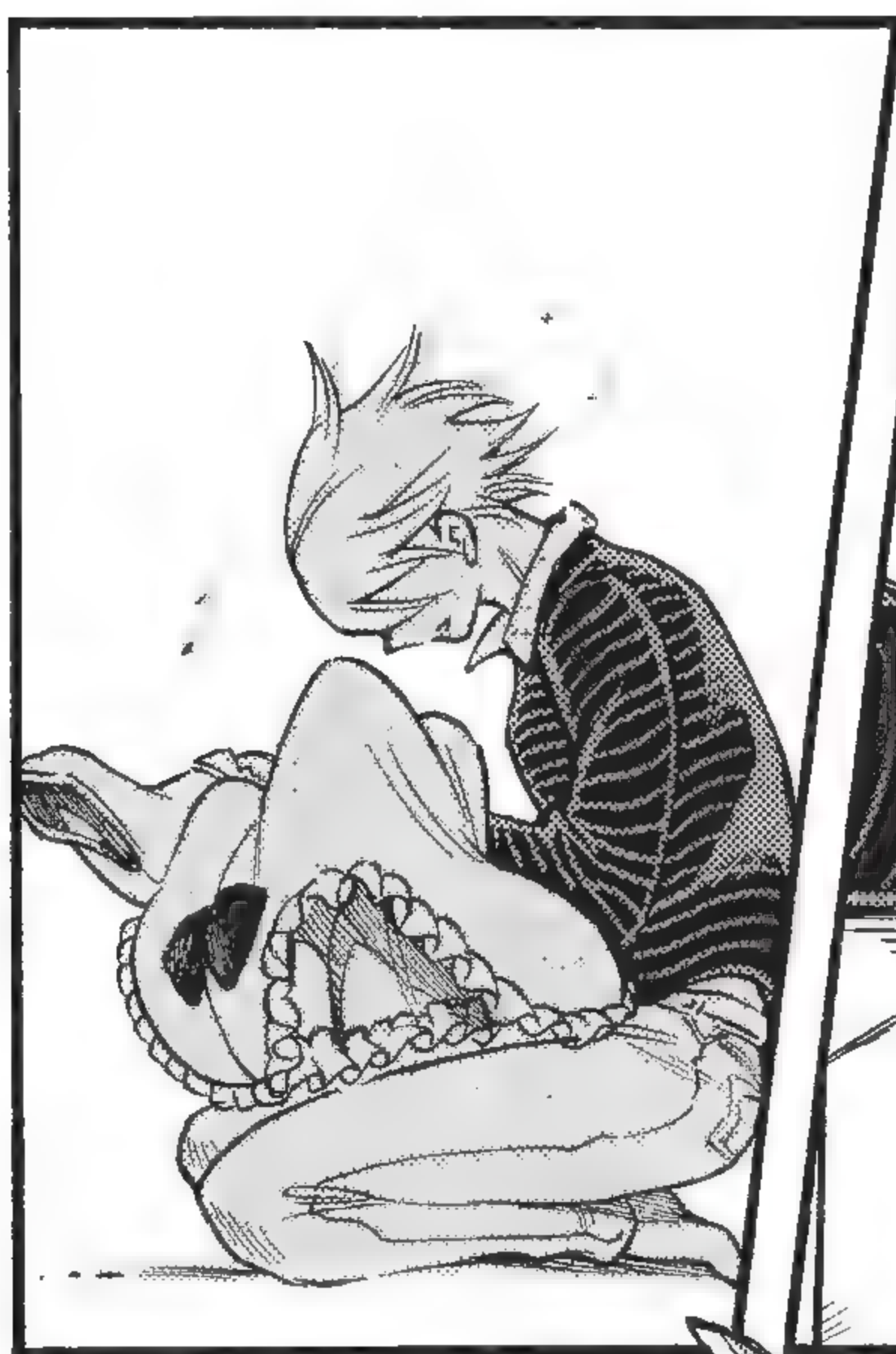
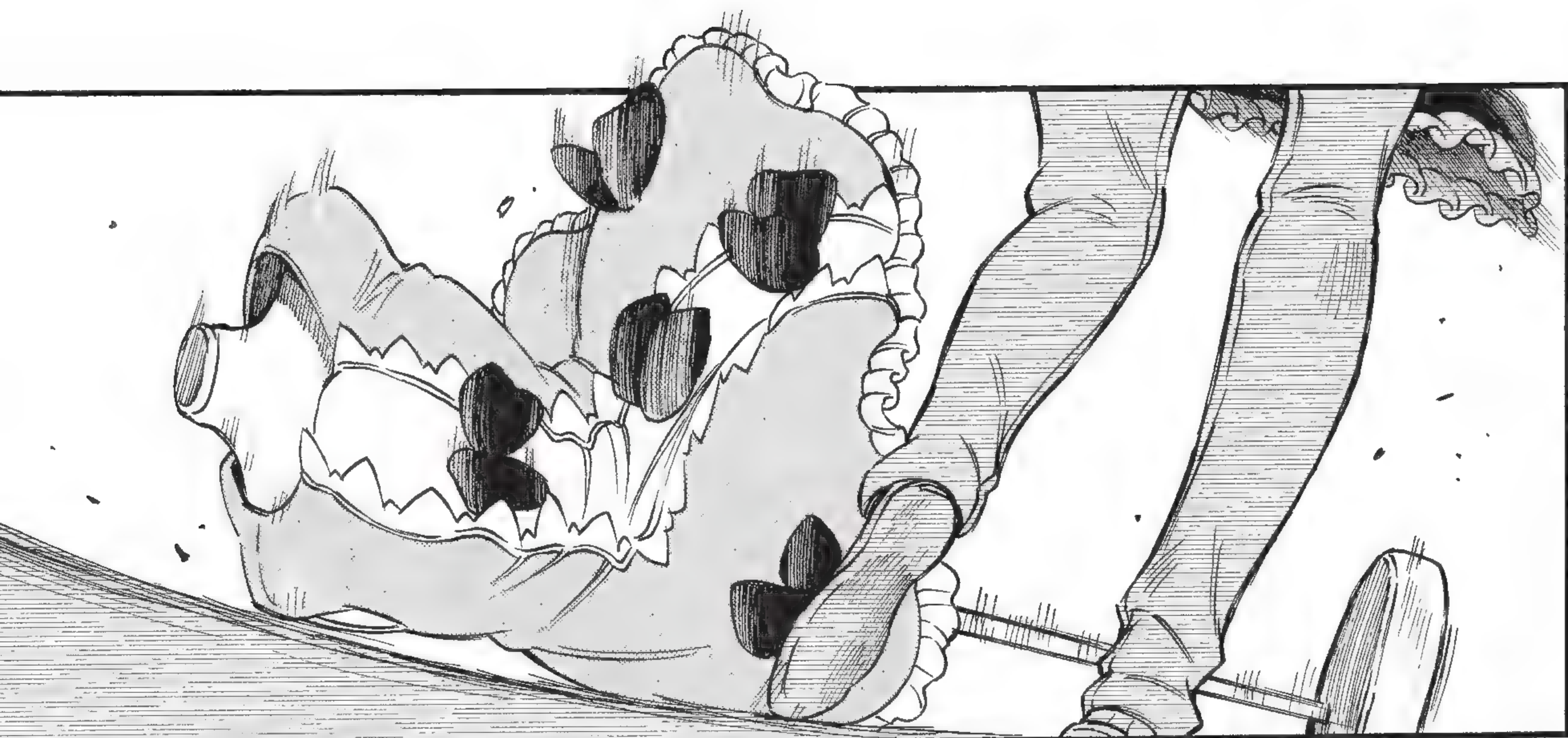


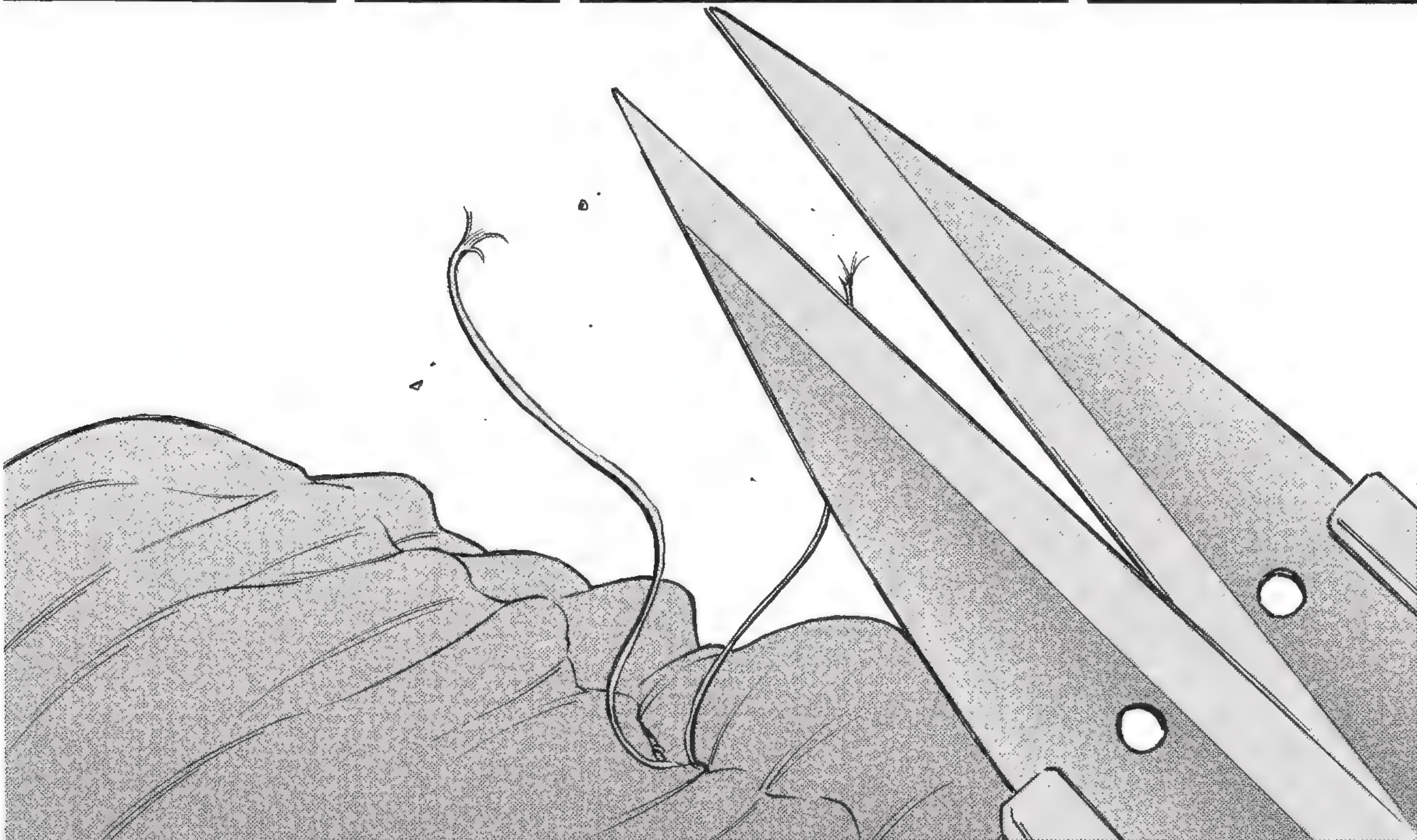
OH,
OKAY!
THAT'S
FINE.
IT
LOOKS
FINE.
LIKE
AYA'S
ASLEEP
ANY-
WAY.

I'M SORRY...
I JUST
REMEMBERED
MY BOSS
ASKED
ME TO DO
SOME WORK
TOMORROW,
SO I'M
GOING TO
HEAD HOME.









LOVES JAPANESE SAKÉ.

EDITOR T-YAMA.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT MAKING THE MAIN CHARACTER A COS-PLAYER?

IF PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT IT THIS MUCH, NOW'S OUR CHANCE. LET'S GO WITH THE SAME THEME, AND MAKE IT A SERIES. WHAT DO YOU SAY?

BUT THE SITUATION WAS MUCH BIGGER THAN I COULD HAVE IMAGINED.

SO I WENT STRAIGHT TO KODANSHA!

WELL, BECAUSE...

WHY AM I MAKING THIS FACE?

HM? WHAT'S THE MATTER?

...

RIGHT...

... AH HA HA HA! COME ON, IT'S NOT MY FAULT!

THAT ONE WAS BORING.

CLASSIC T-YAMA.

I DON'T REMEMBER THE CHARACTERS AT ALL, SO FOR NOW, I'LL JUST DRAW A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL.

THE MAIN CHARACTER WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL.

THE TRUTH IS, BEFORE I STARTED COMPLEX ...

I HAD PROPOSED A COSPLAY MANGA.

YEAH, WELL.

MUMBLE

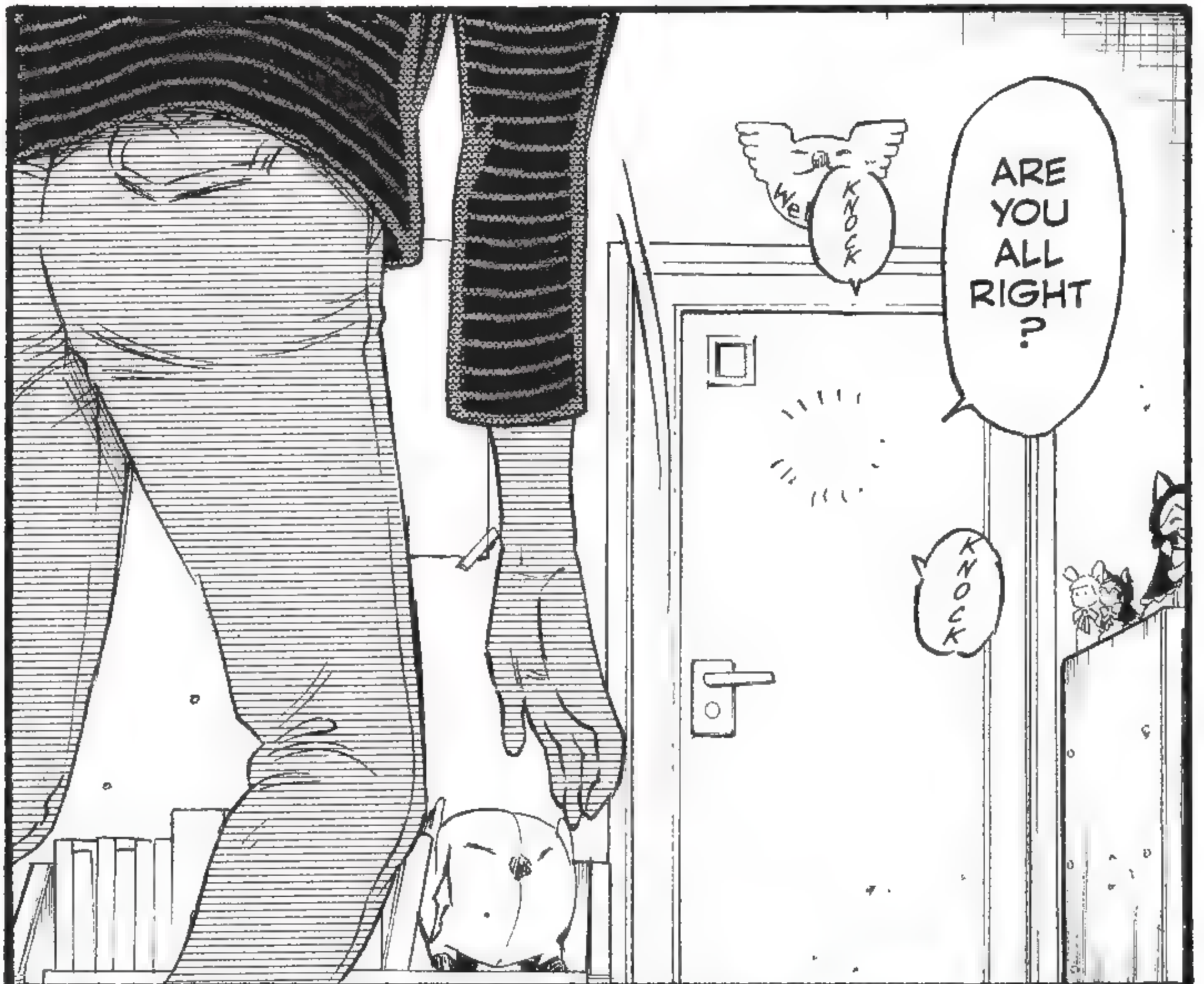
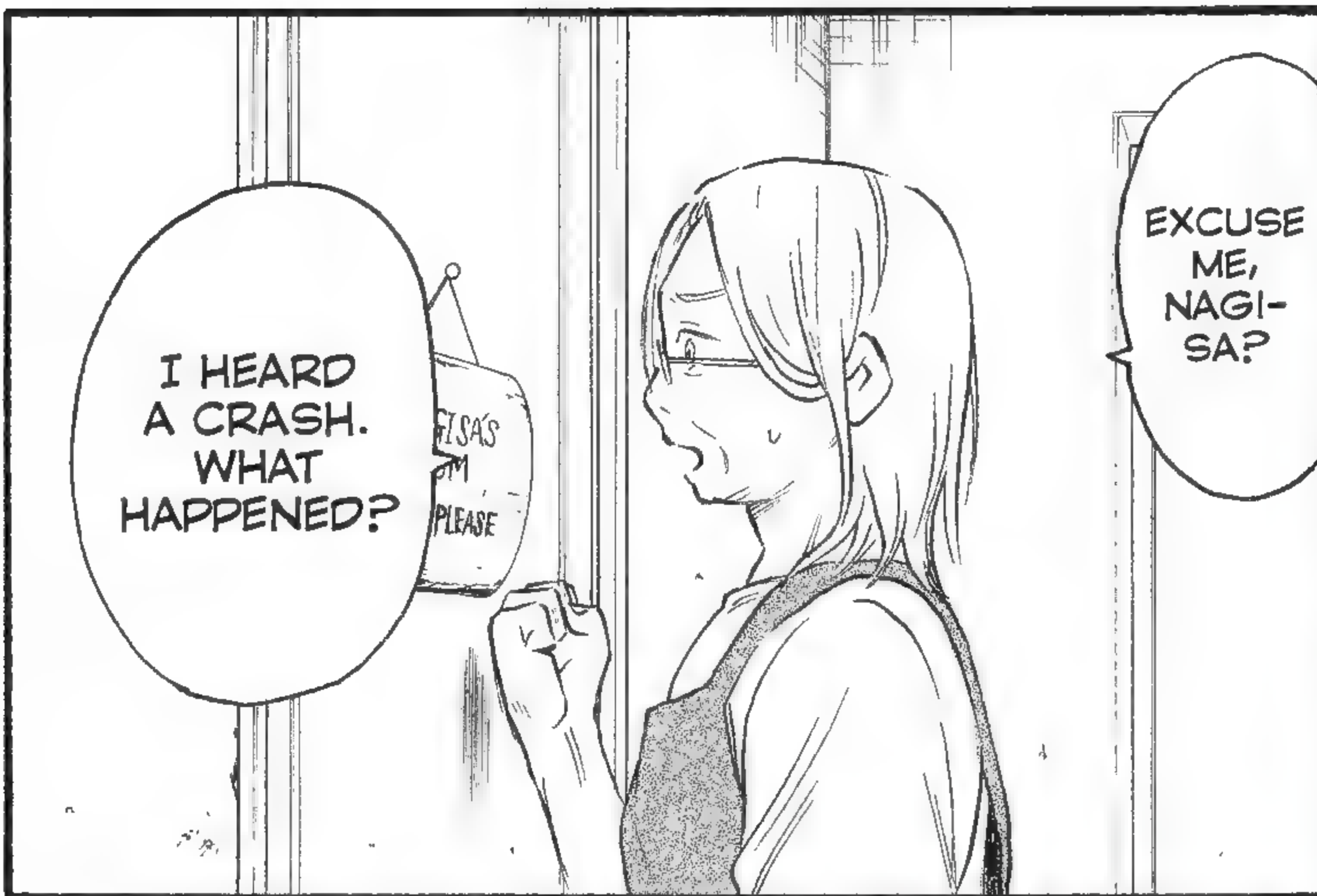
HUH? BUT YOU SAID BEFORE THAT I COULDN'T DO A COSPLAY MANGA.

MUMBLE



...WOULD I
HAVE FALLEN
SO DEEPLY
IN LOVE WITH
COSPLAY?

IF I HAD
KNOWN
IT WAS
GOING TO
TURN OUT
THIS WAY...



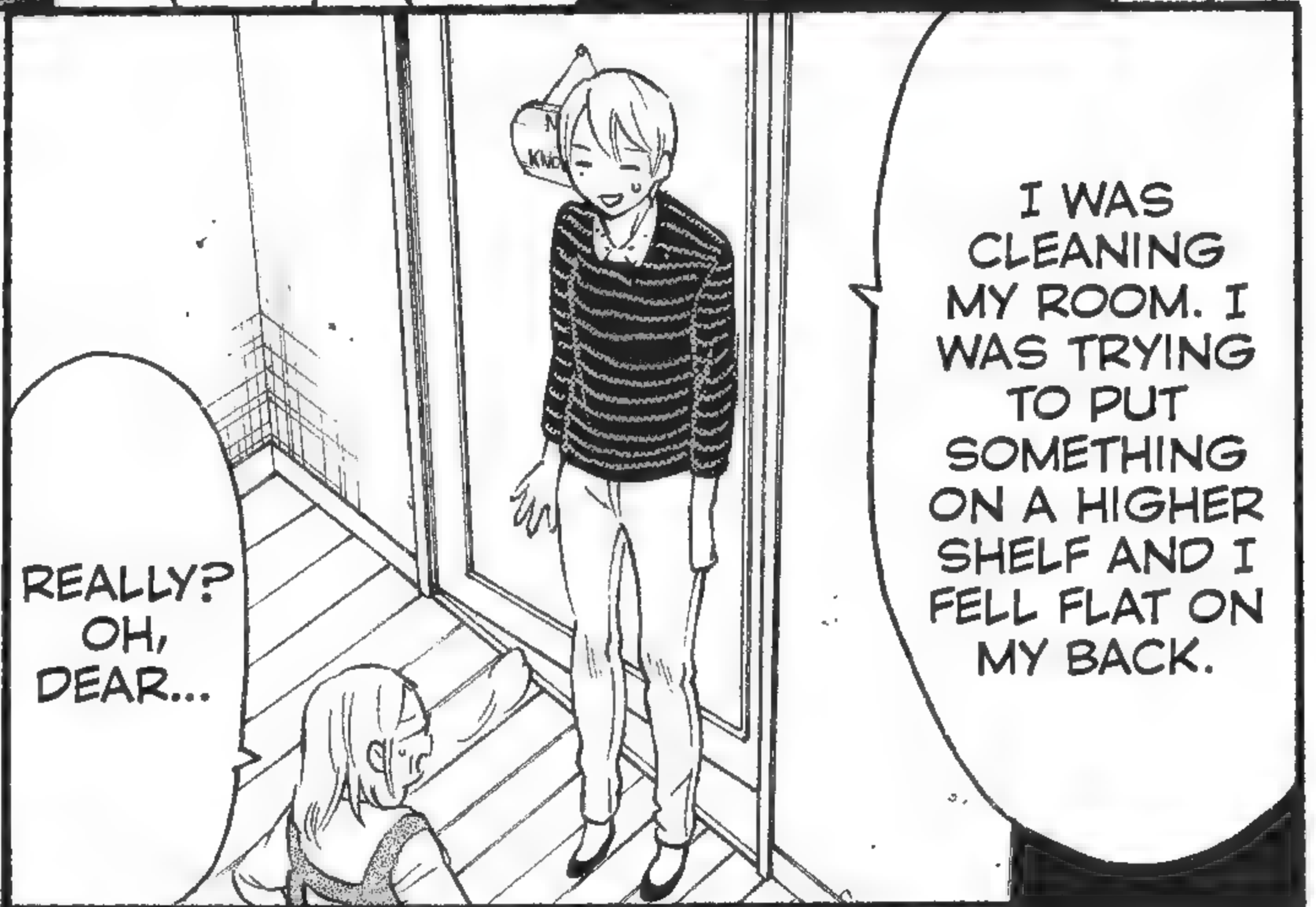


SORRY.



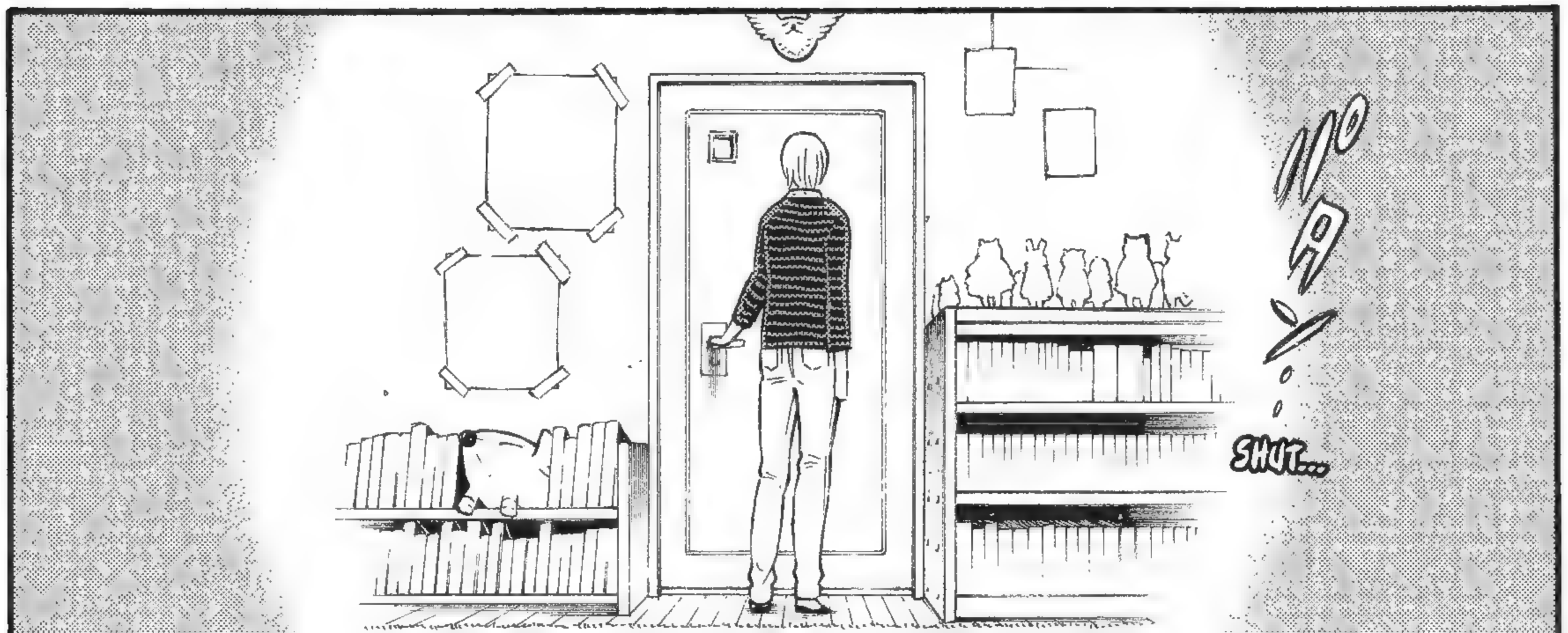
WELL, OKAY. BE CAREFUL.

SORRY ABOUT THAT. I'M GOING TO GET BACK TO IT.

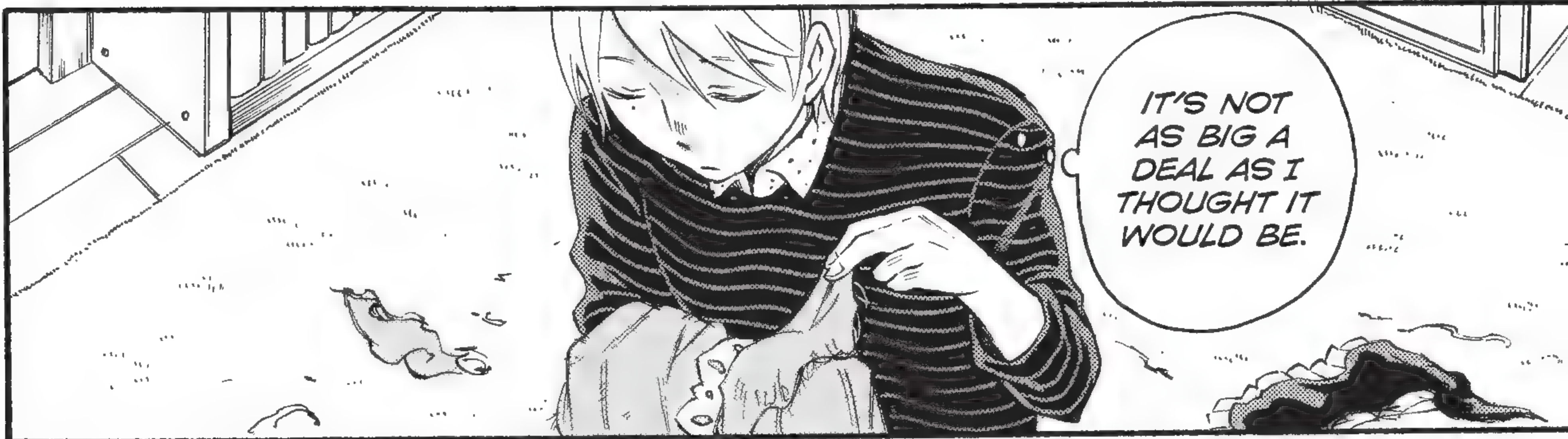
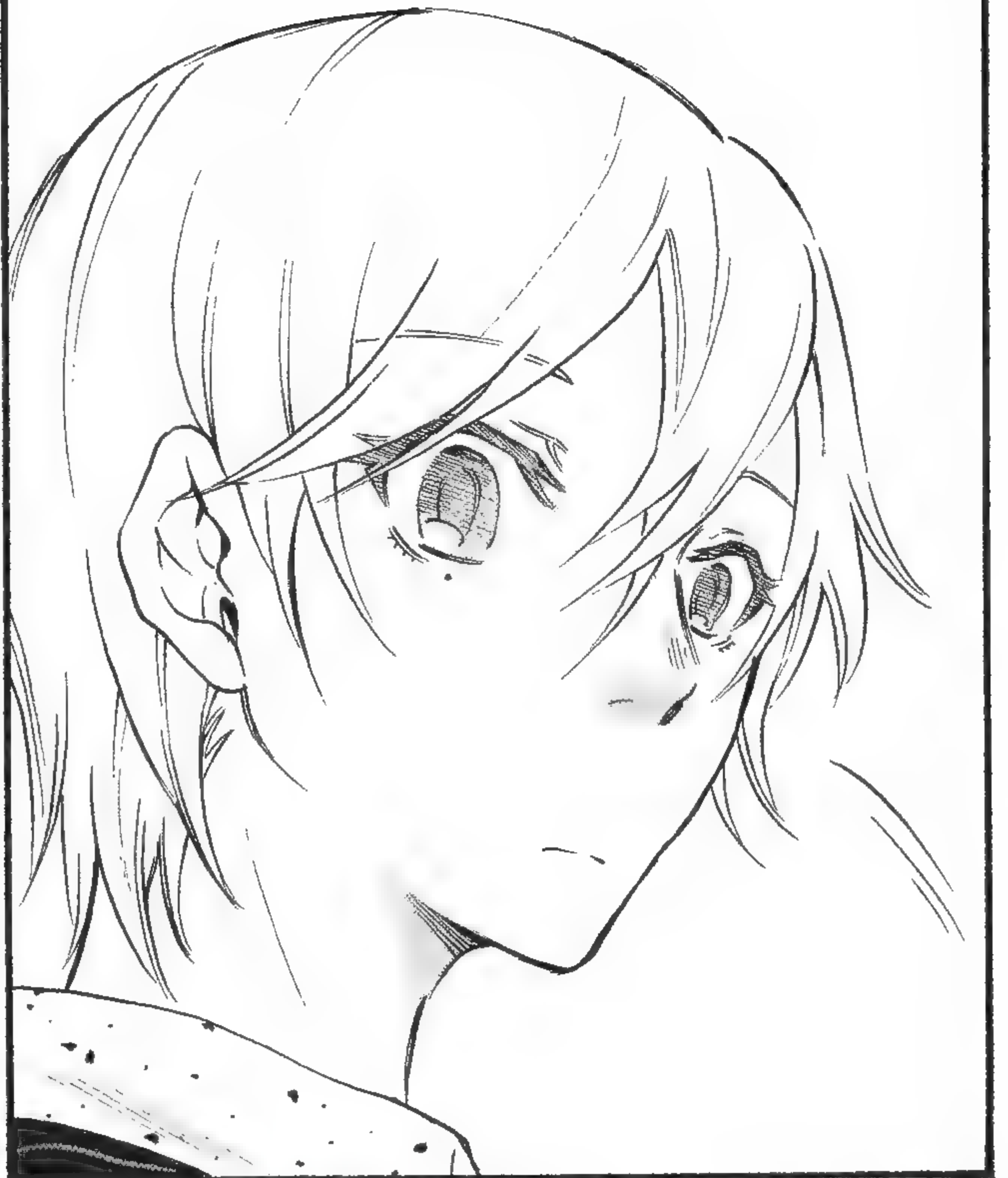


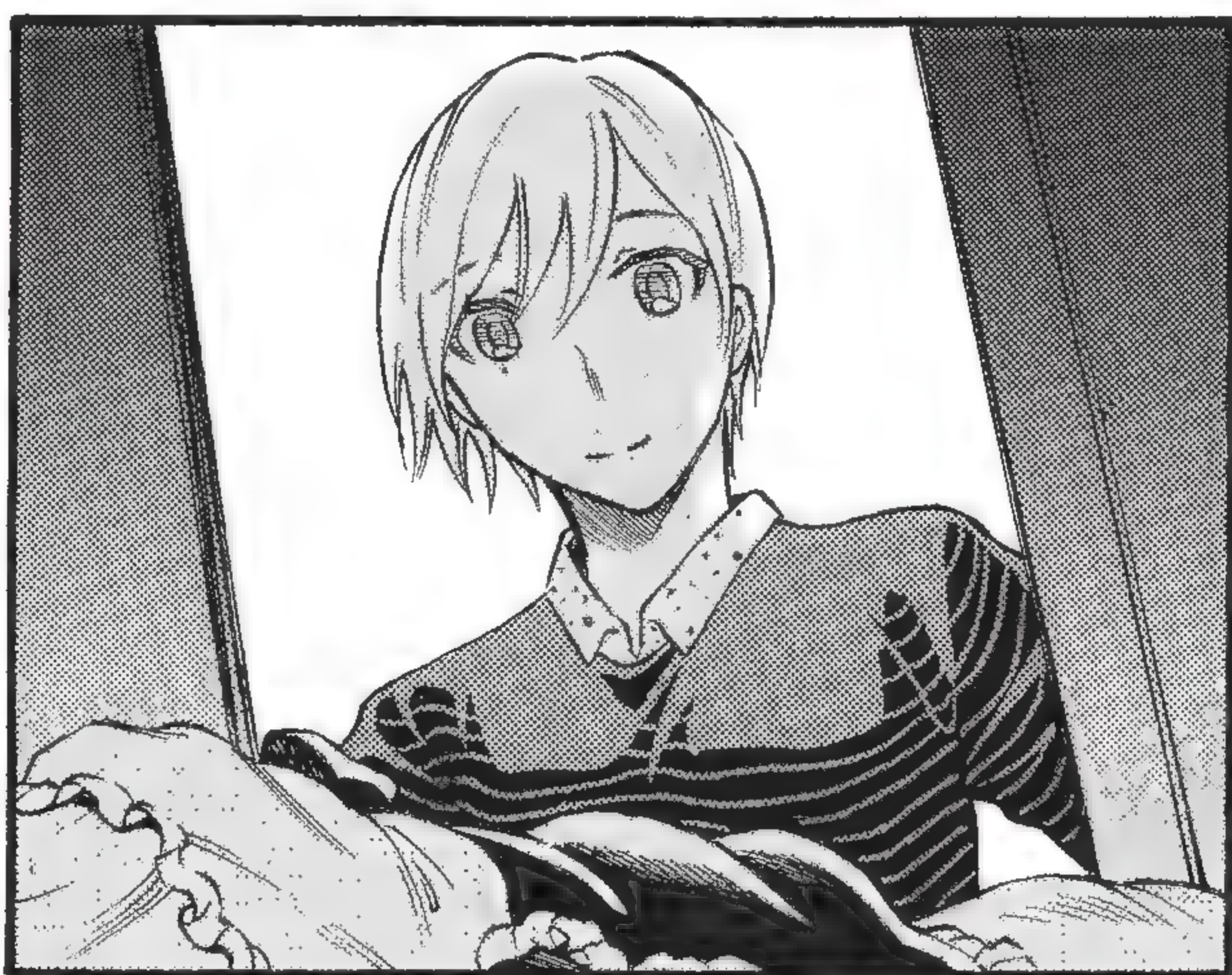
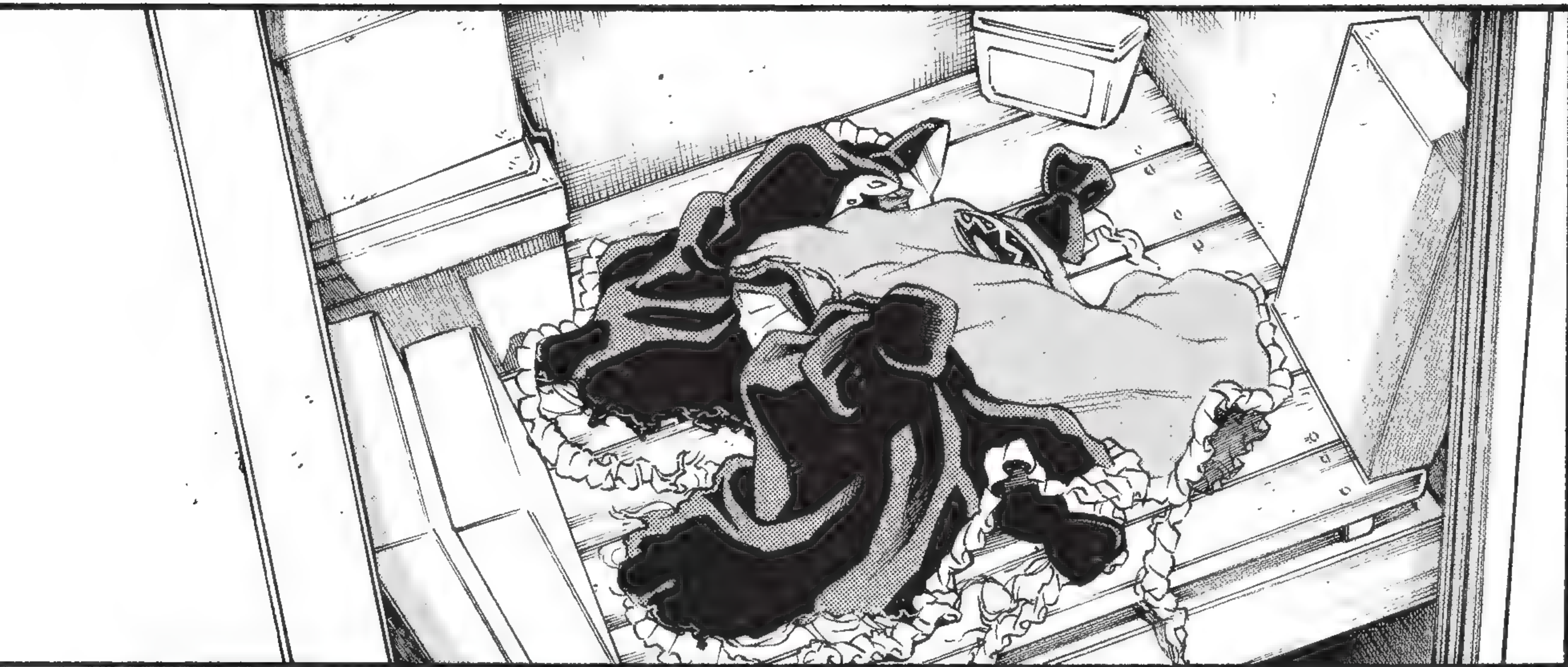
REALLY? OH, DEAR...

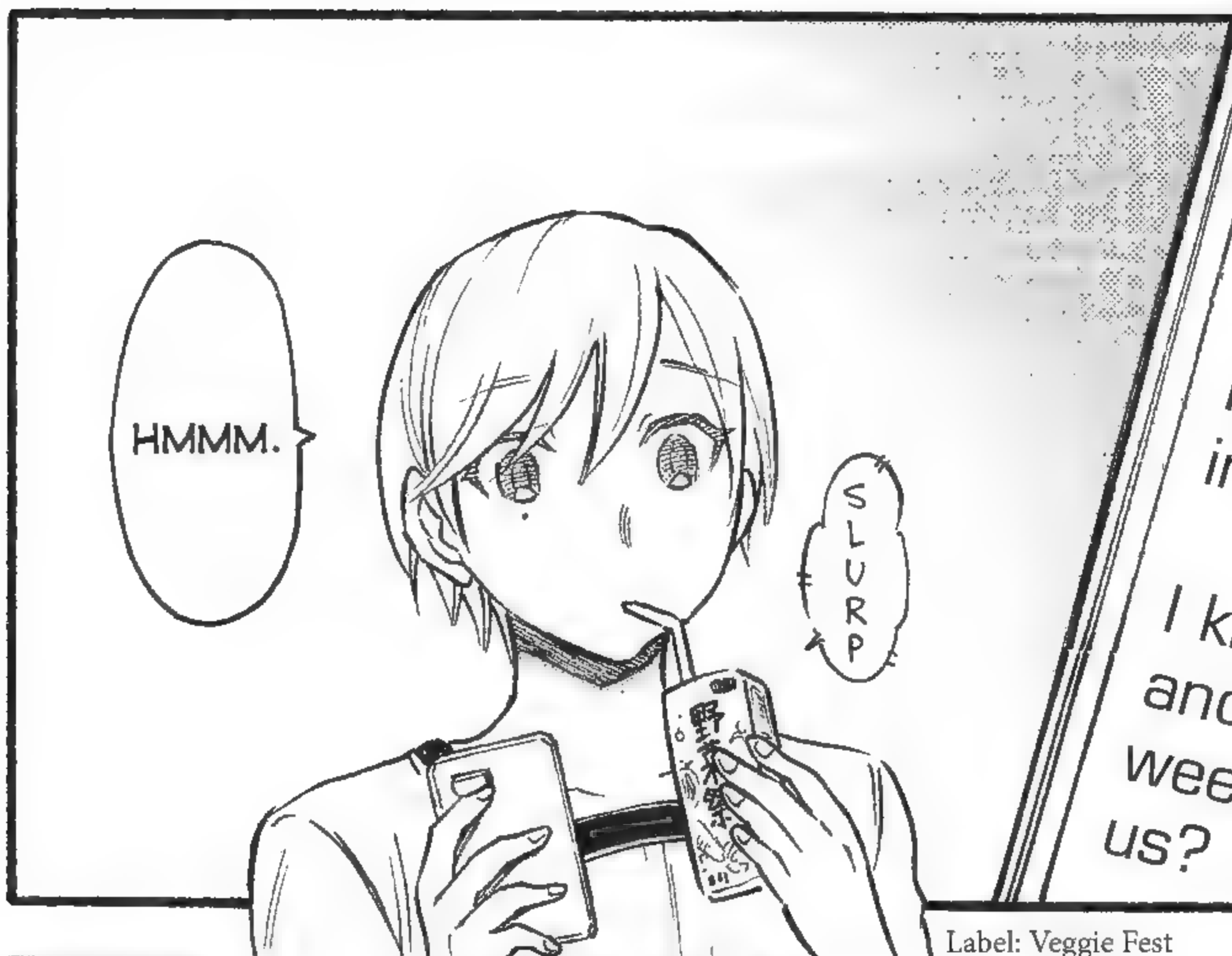
I WAS CLEANING MY ROOM. I WAS TRYING TO PUT SOMETHING ON A HIGHER SHELF AND I FELL FLAT ON MY BACK.



NO!
SHUT...

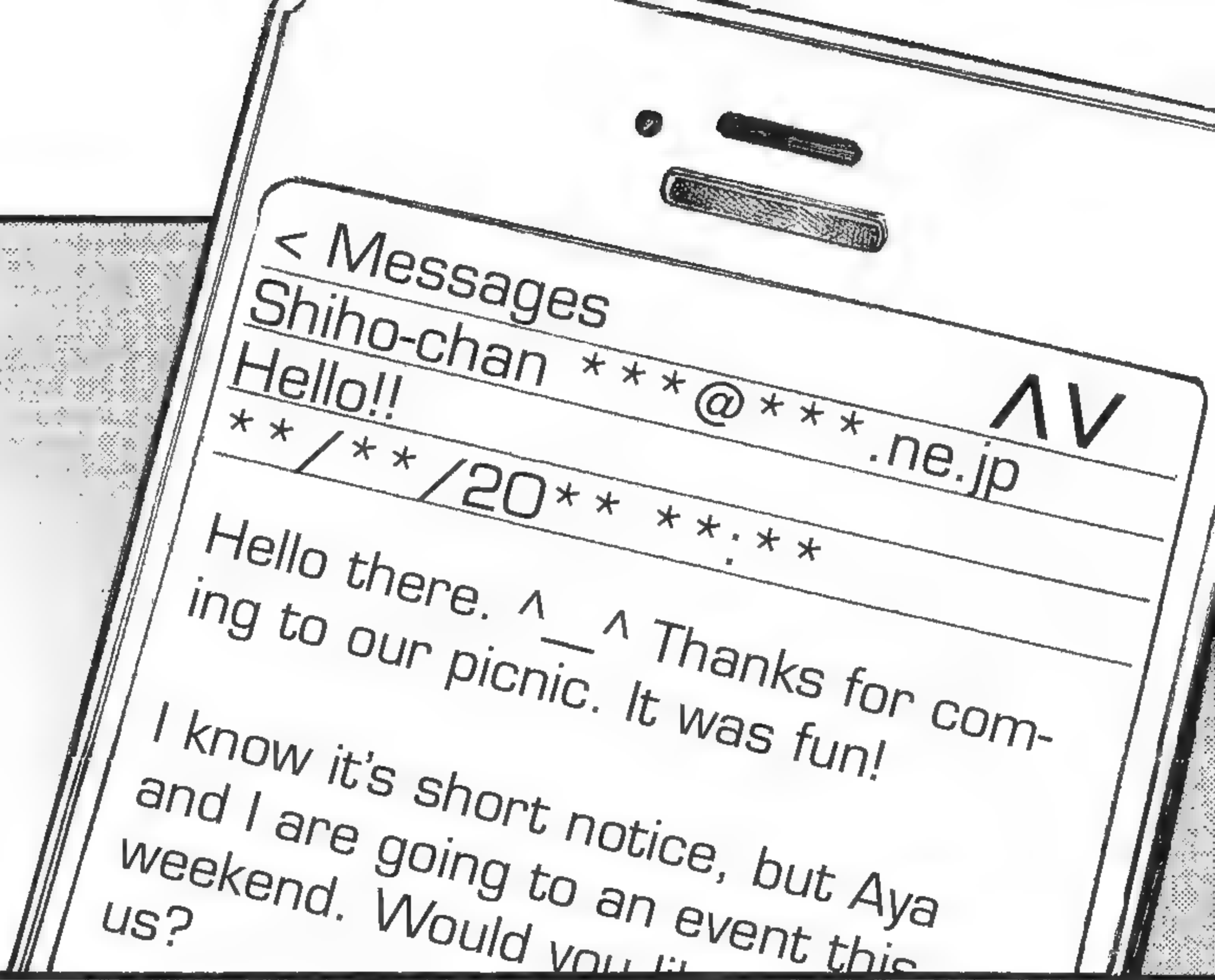






HMMM.

SLURP



< Messages

Shiho-chan ***@***.ne.jp

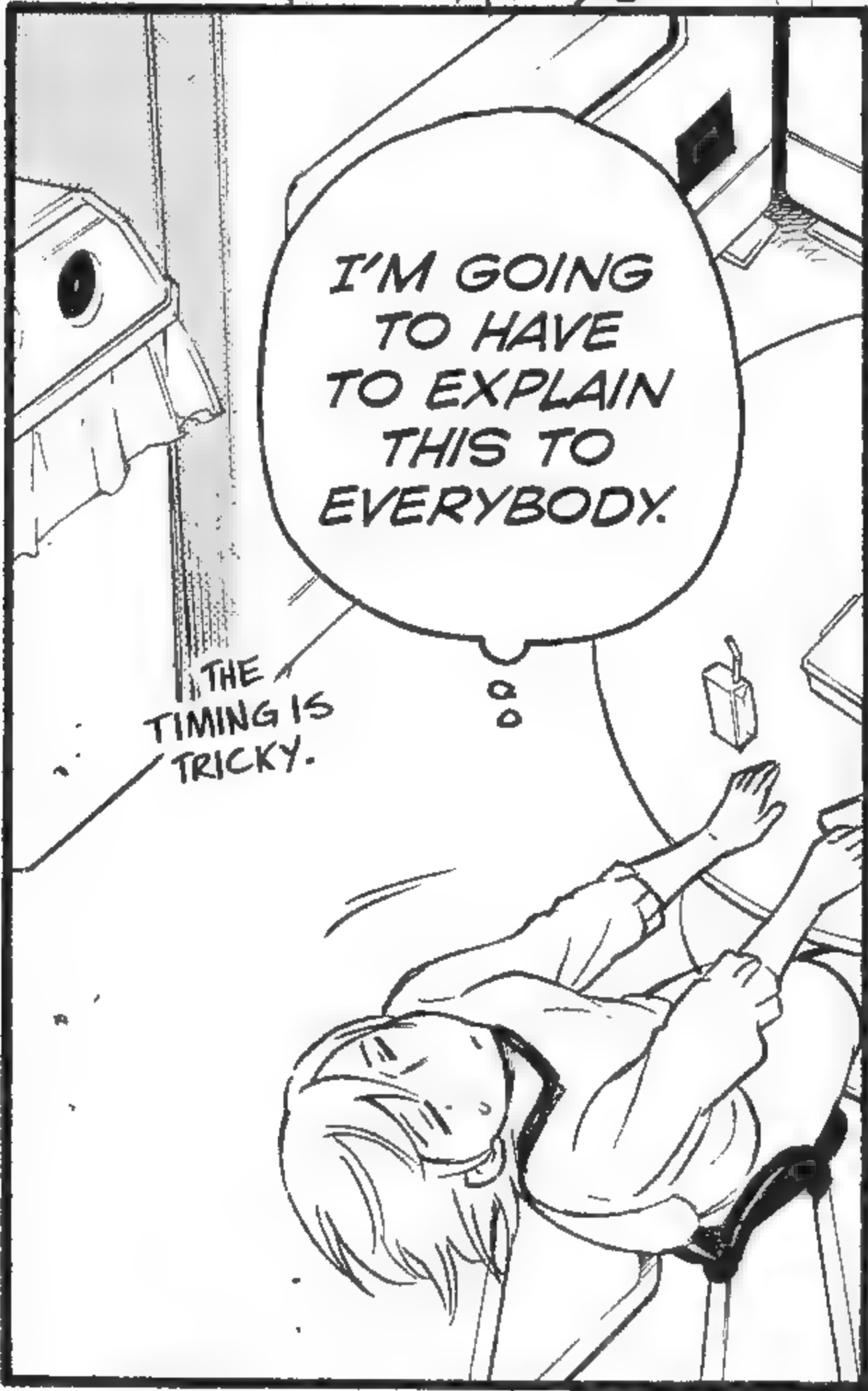
Hello!!

//20** **.*.*

Hello there. ^ _ ^ Thanks for coming to our picnic. It was fun!

I know it's short notice, but Aya and I are going to an event this weekend. Would you like to go with us?

Label: Veggie Fest



I'M GOING TO HAVE TO EXPLAIN THIS TO EVERYBODY.

THE TIMING IS TRICKY.



I'M SORRY.



AND SEND.

"I CAN'T. I HAVE PLANS THIS WEEKEND."

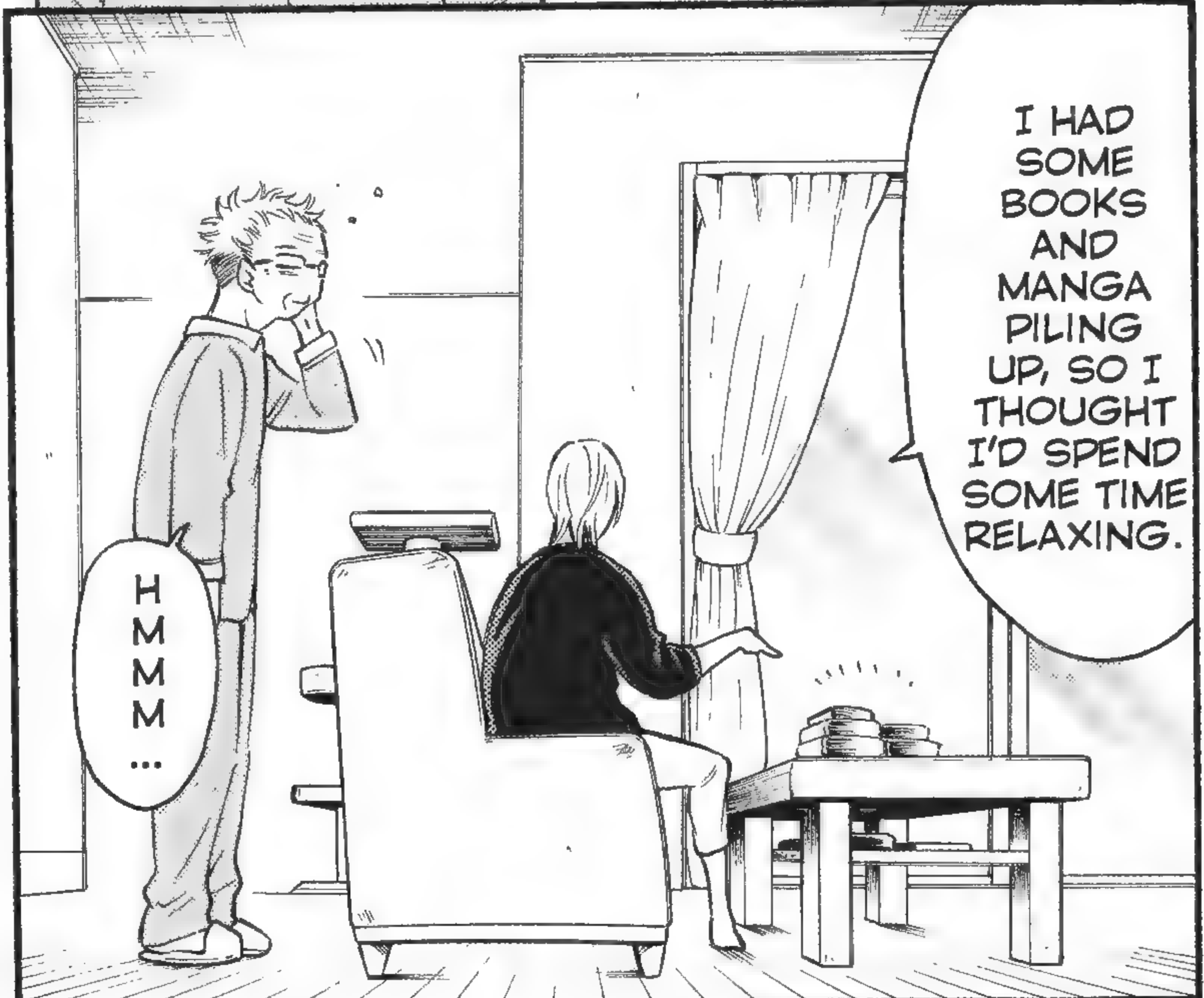
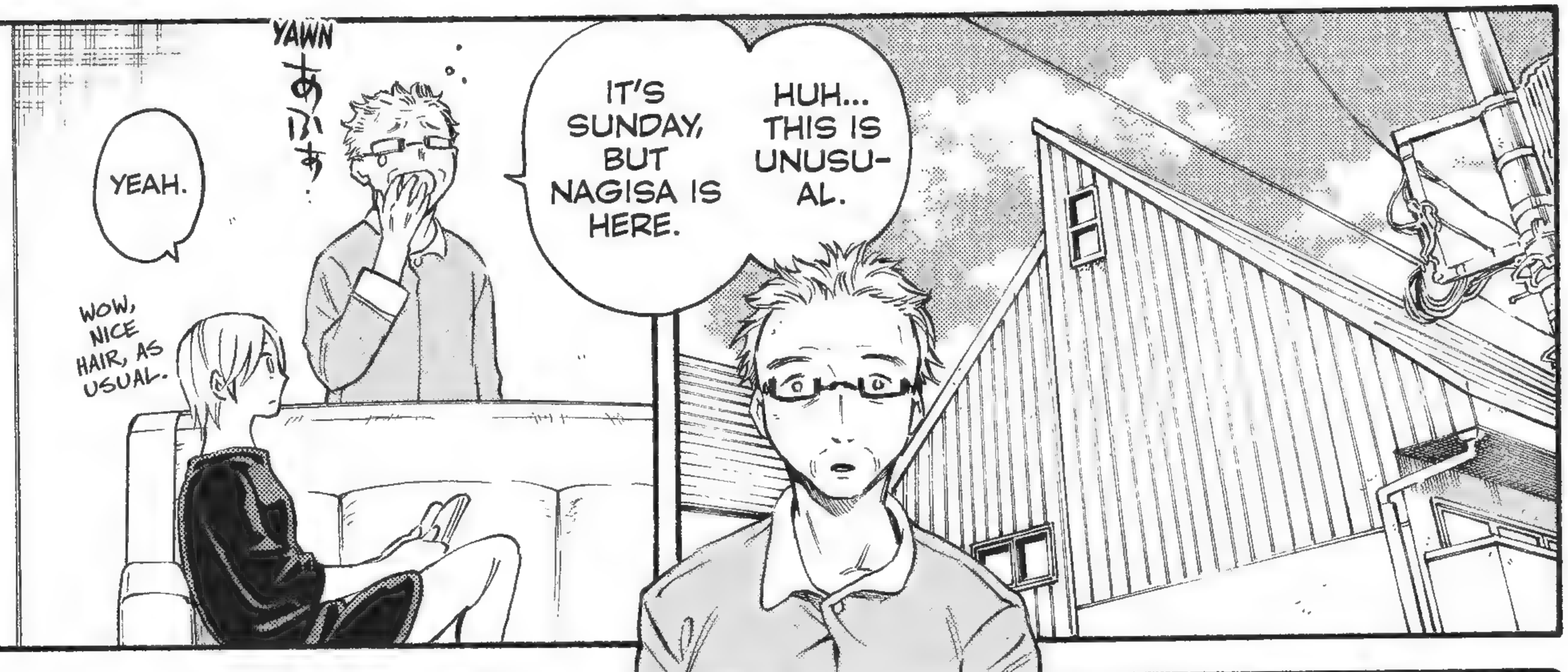


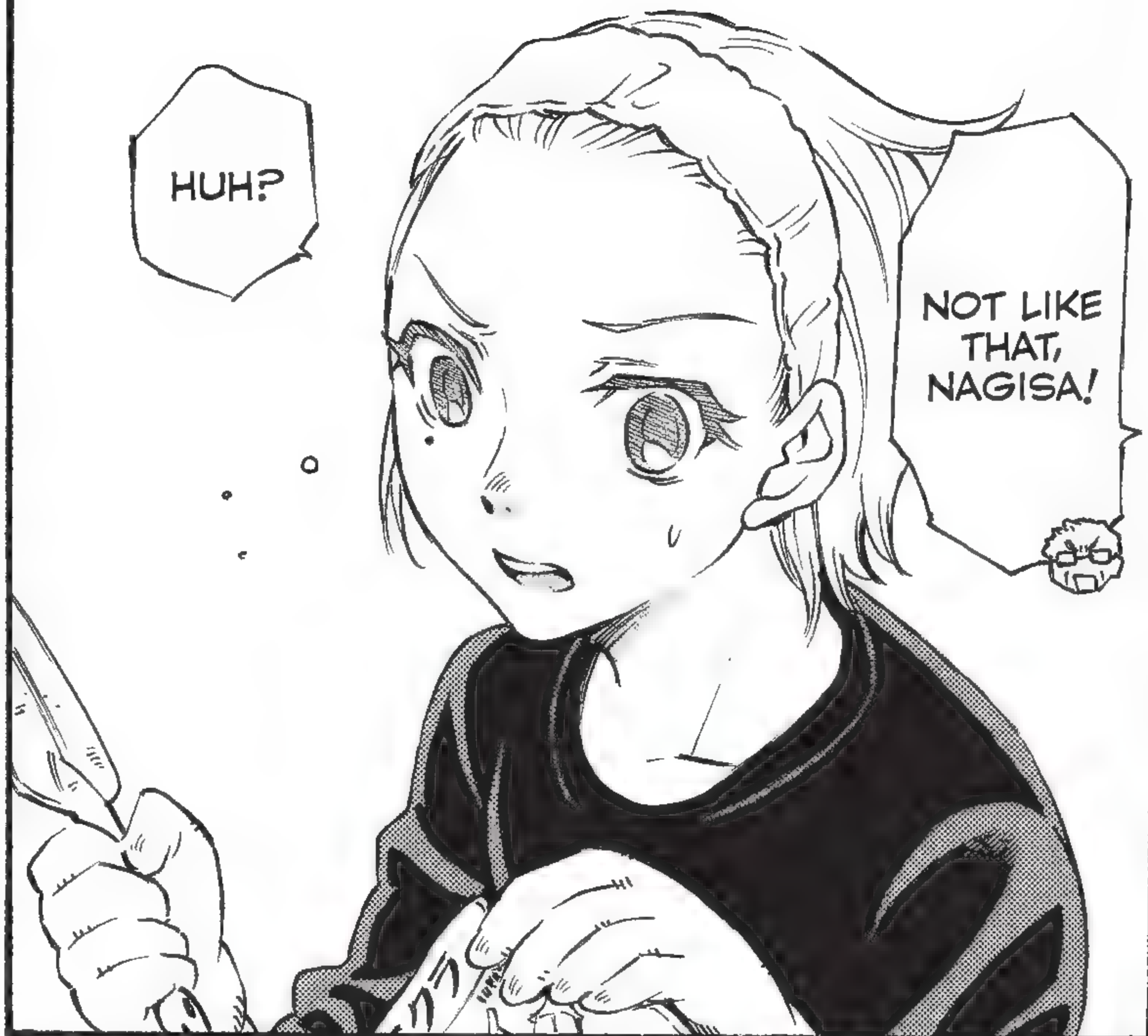
I USED TO ALWAYS SPEND MY DAYS OFF AT EVENTS.



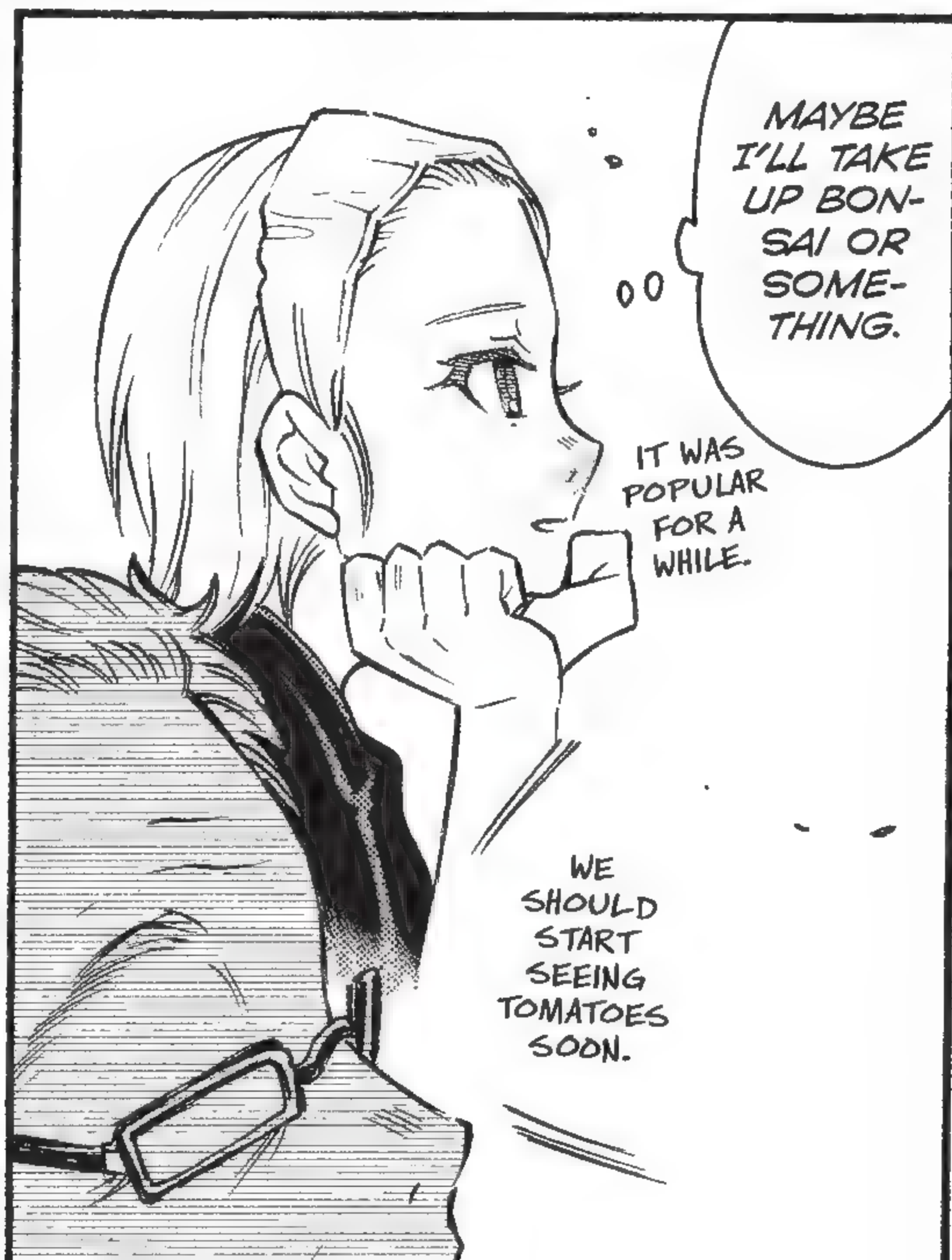
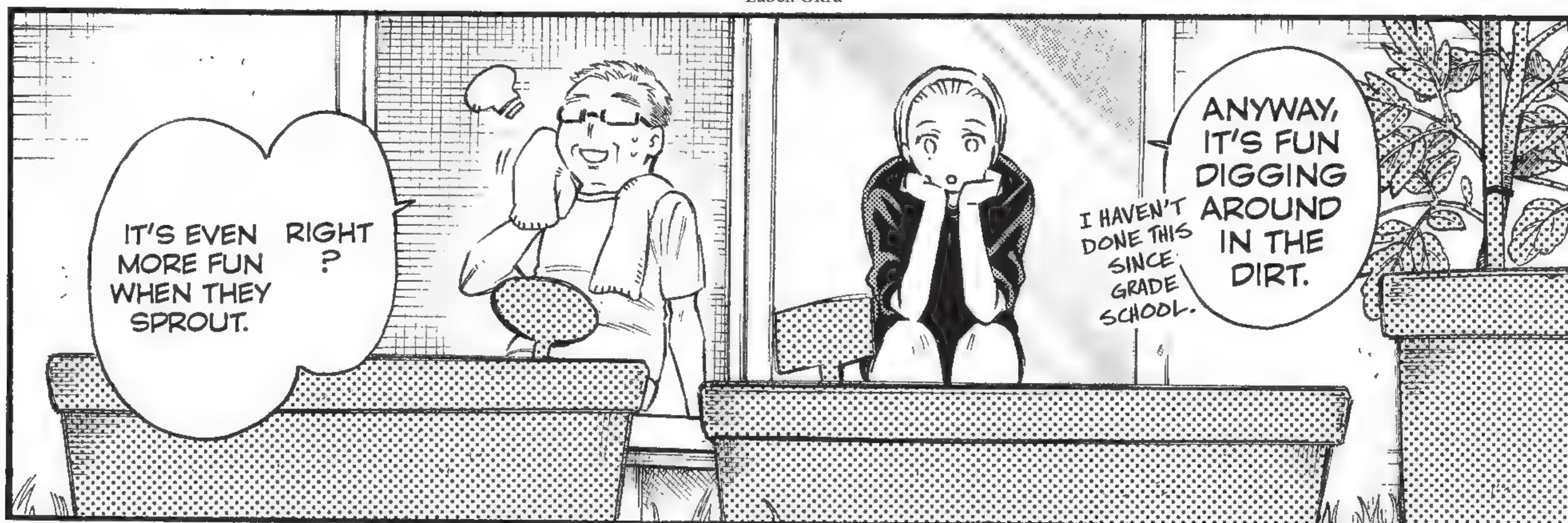
KATTA KATTA

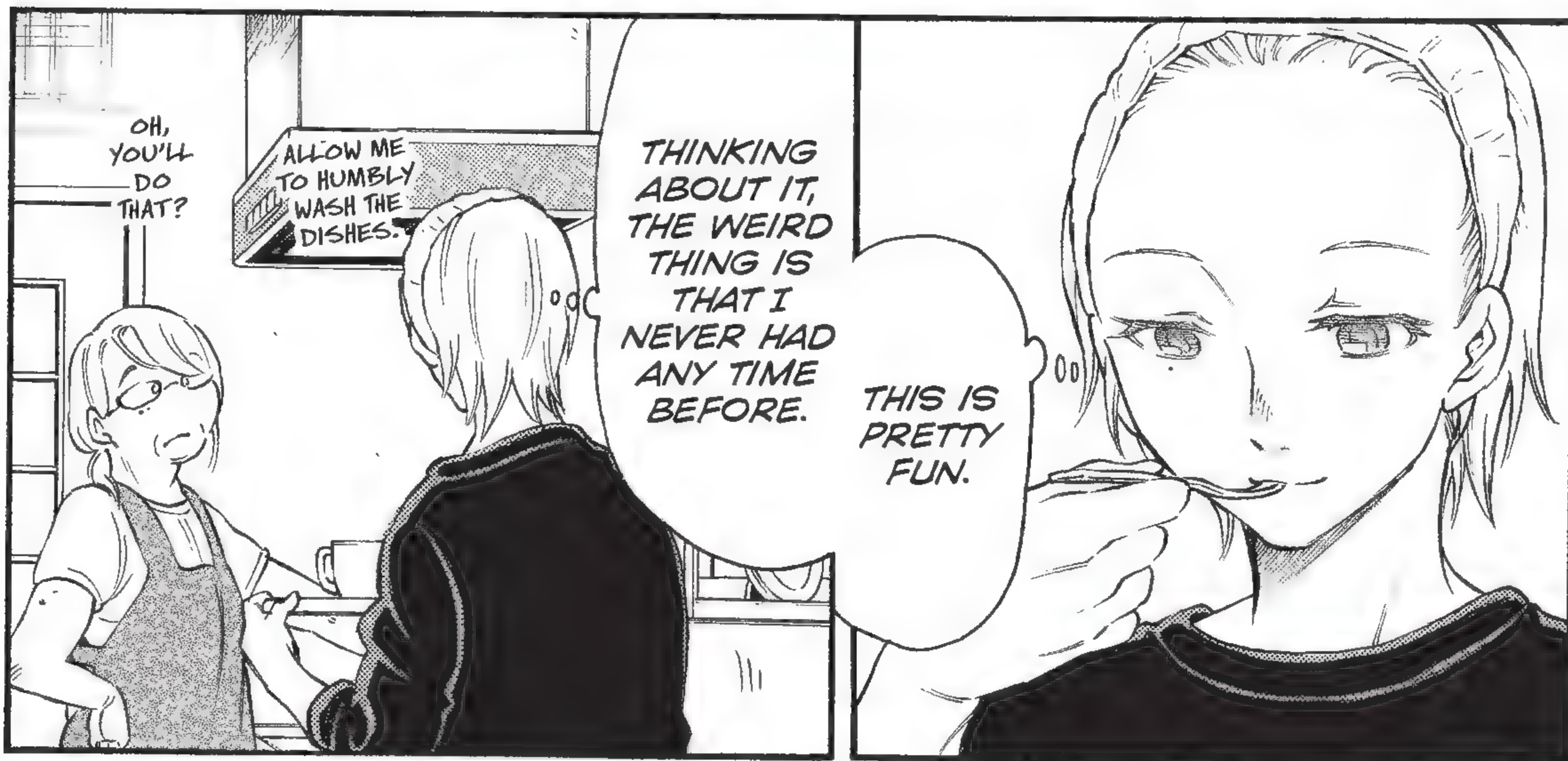
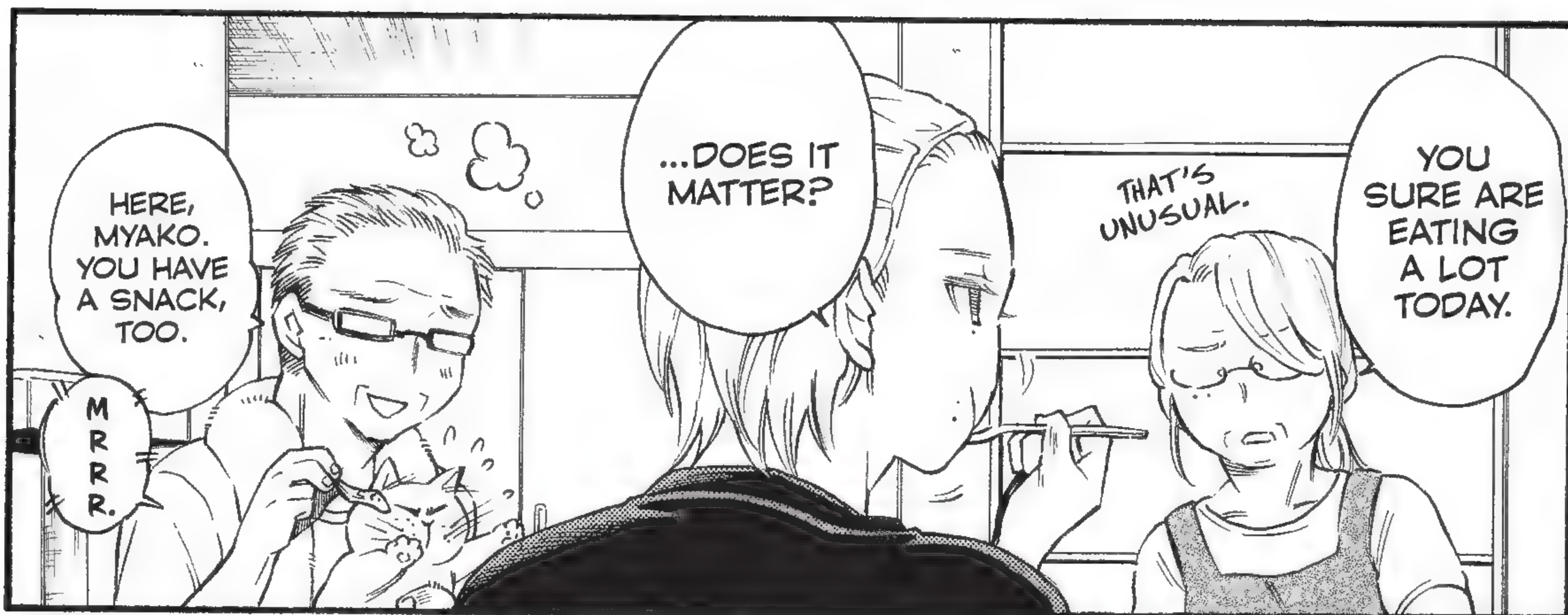
IT'S SO WEIRD HAVING MY WEEKENDS FREE.

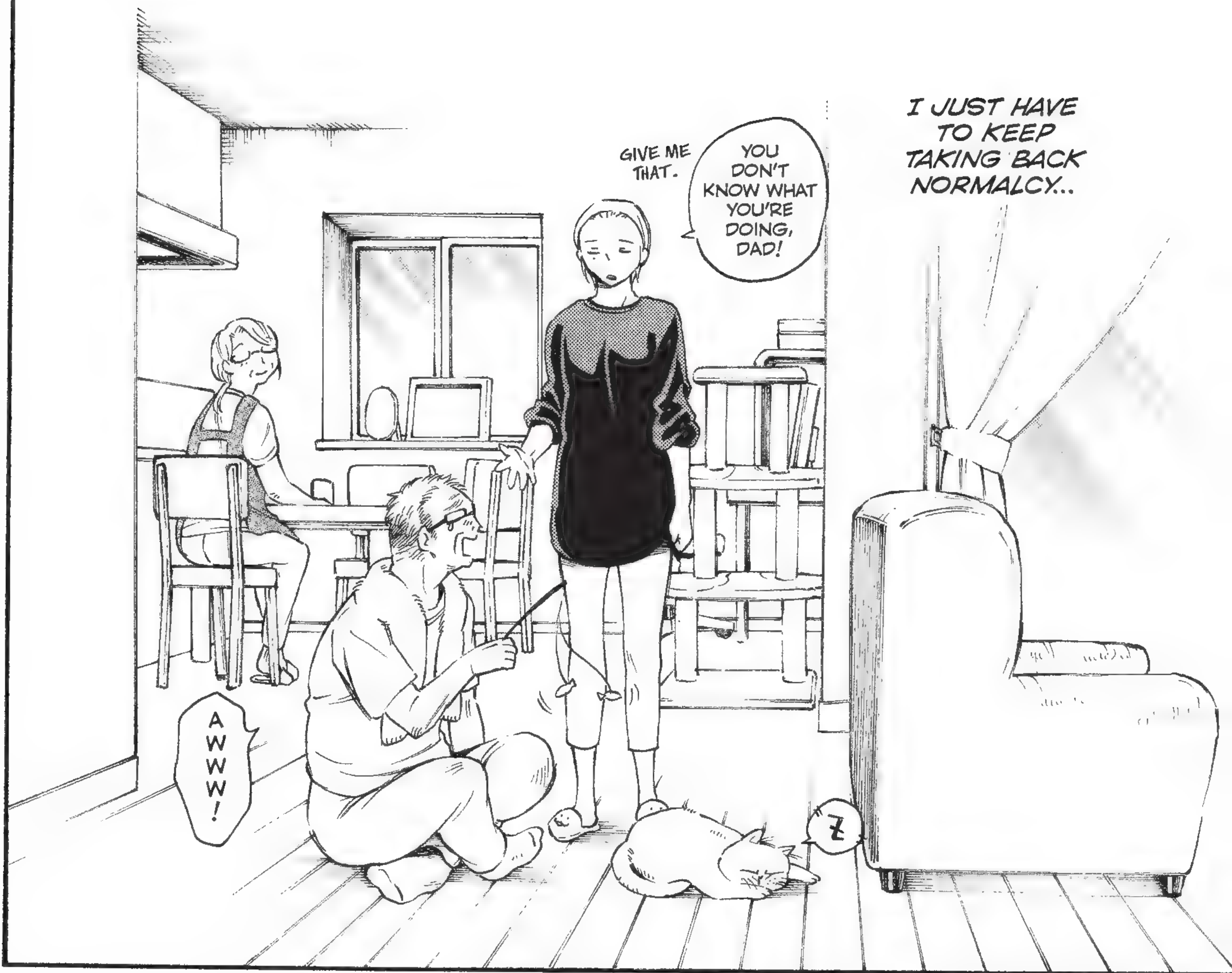




Label: Okra







GIVE ME THAT.

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, DAD!

I JUST HAVE TO KEEP TAKING BACK NORMALCY...

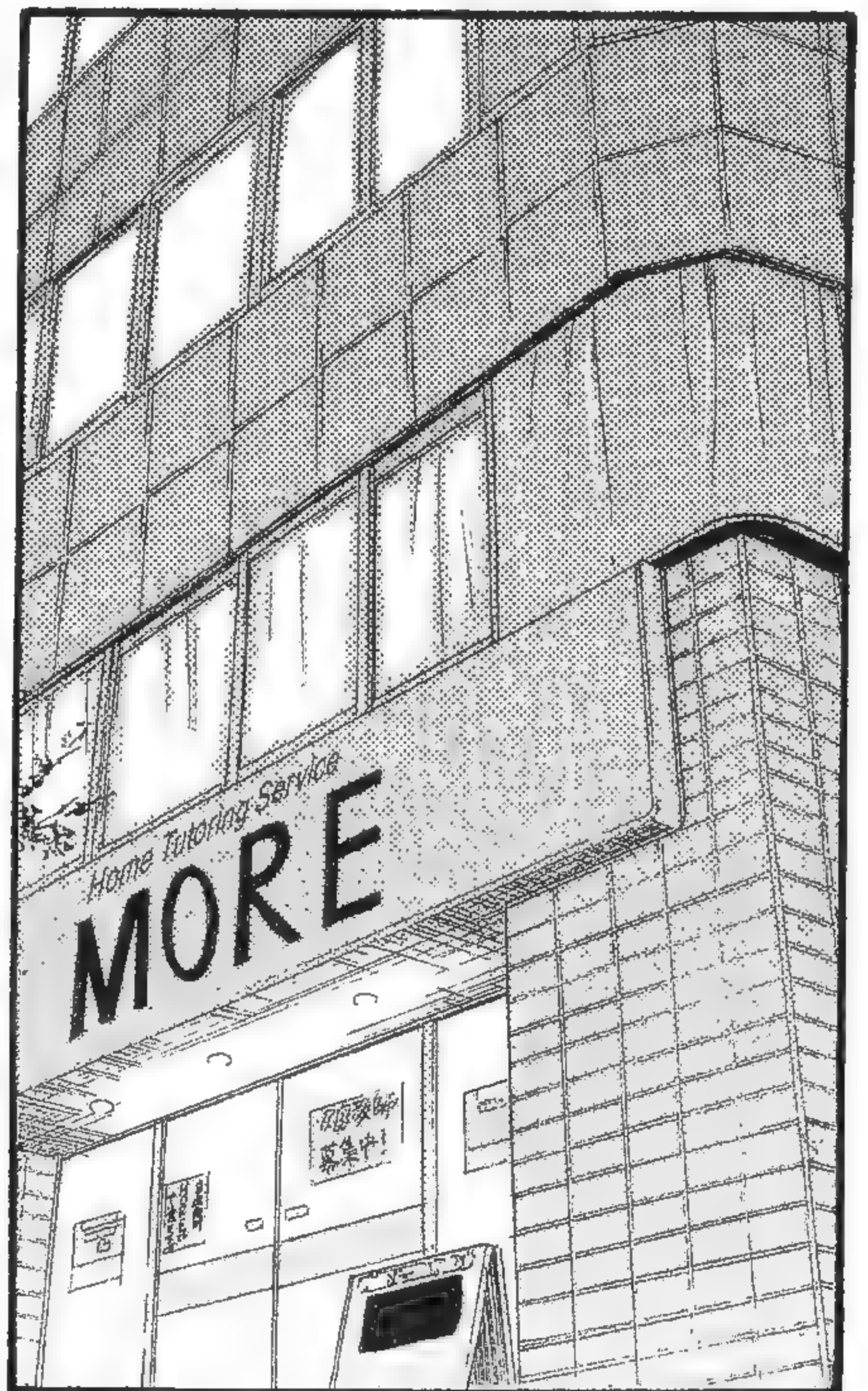
AWWW!

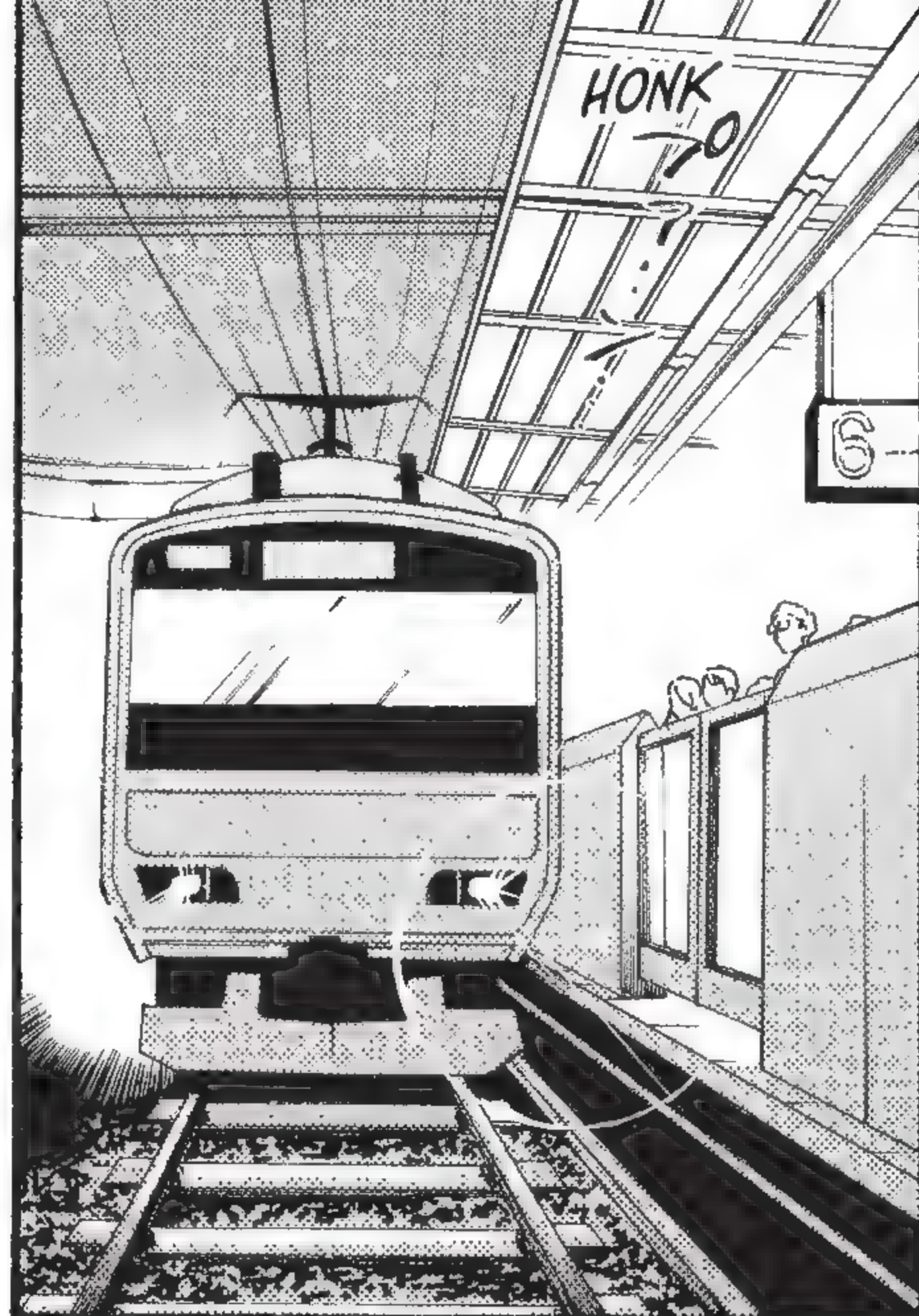
7

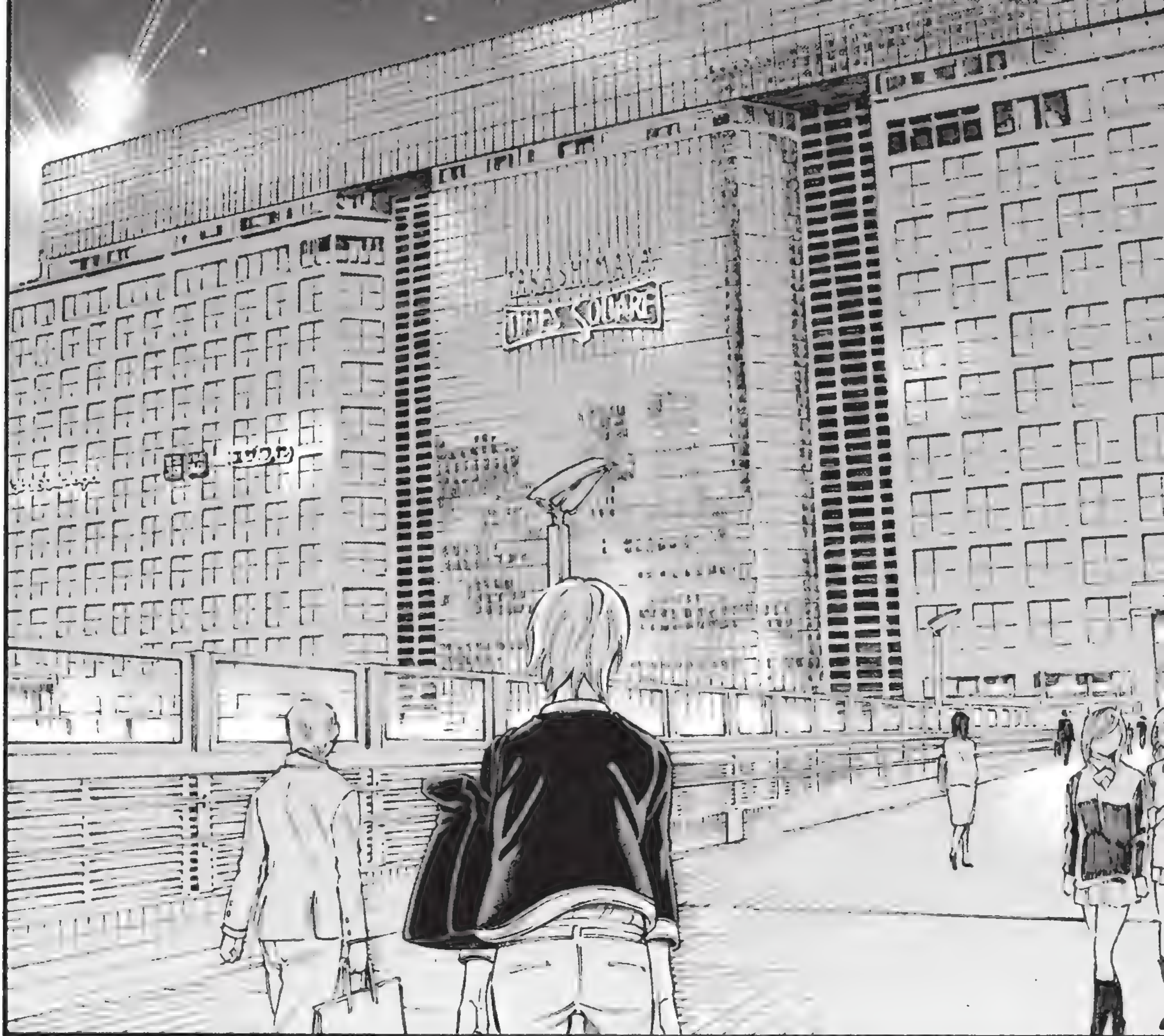


BETTER HURRY HOME. MOM SAID WE'RE HAVING TEPPANYAKI FOR DINNER.

MMM, GRILLED VEGETABLES.









whisper

UGH,
LOOK AT
THE GIANT
OLD LADY.
GROSS...

NICE
TO
MEET
YOU,
NAGISA!

THANKS
FOR
DOING
ALL
THIS!

MY
NAME
IS AYA
KURI
HA...

I LOVE
WHAT I
LOVE.

NOTHING
ELSE
MATTERS.

She's so gigantic, the picture
was right there for the taking.
lolol is she showing them off?

WHY...?

WE'RE
NOT DOING
ANYTHING
WRONG

WHY DO
WE HAVE
TO RUN?

IT'S
TIME

NAGISA

IT'S NOT
LIKE YOU
CAN DO IT
FOREVER,
ANYWAY

... YOU
GAVE UP
ON THIS
NONSENSE

I THINK
I'M GOING
TO STOP
COSPLAYING.

I...

HEY,
NAGISA

I'M NOT
OKAY.

NOT AT
ALL.

I...

IT'S
HOPE-
LESS.



TO ME,
COSPLAY...

...IS MY
LICENSE TO
BE WHO I
AM.

CLICK

BUT
THEN...

CLACK

CLICK

CLACK



I
JUST
...

I CAN'T
GIVE IT
UP.





That weekend



NOTICE!!
THIS EVENT INCLUDES R-18
MATERIAL. THOSE UNDER 18
PLEASE BE AWARE.

COS ROM ZOO

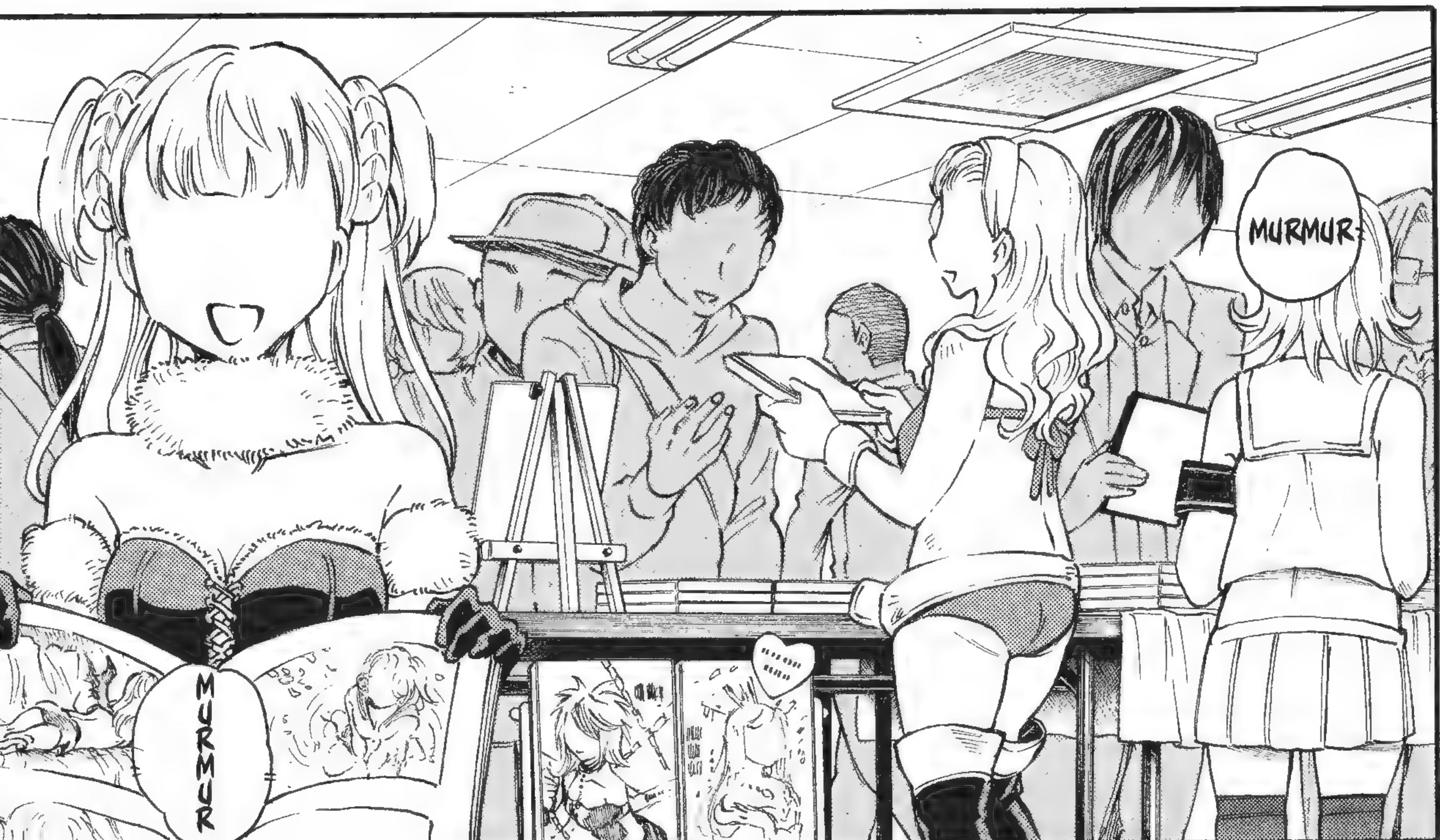
COS ROM
ZOO

COS ROM
MARKET
COS ROM ZOO!
REGISTRATION

MURMUR

MURMUR

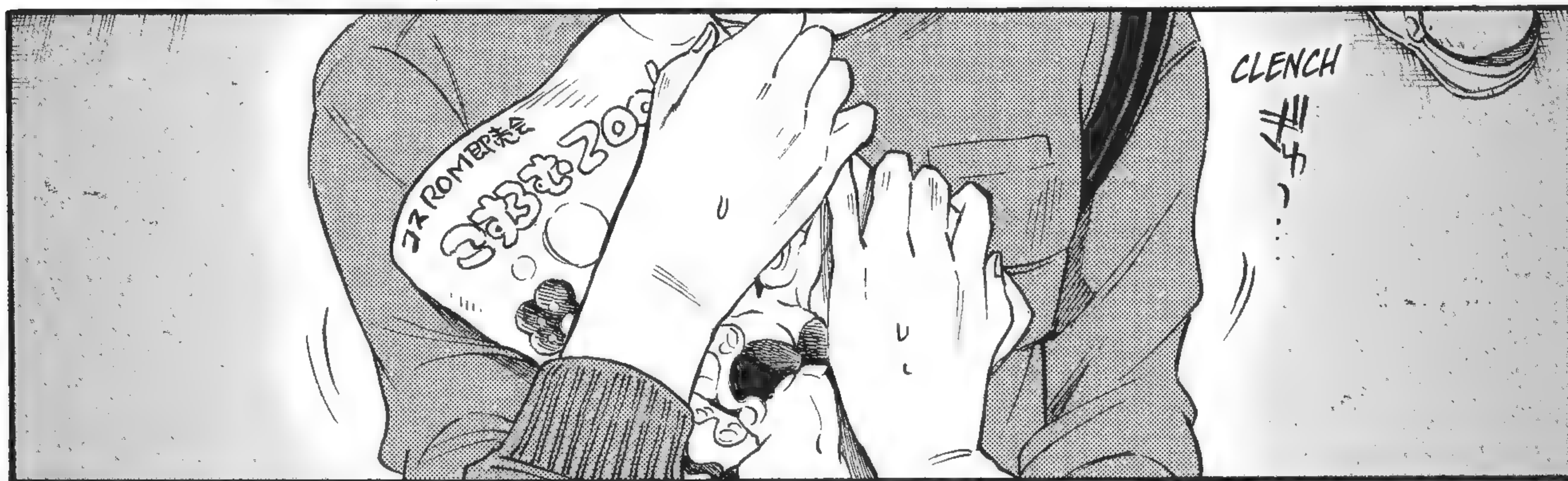
MURMUR



MURMUR



Flier: Cos Rom Market, Cos Rom Zoo



Poster: Cos Rom Market, Cos Rom



Poster: Cos Rom Market, Cos Rom

Sign: Buying and Selling, Cos Rom Zoo!

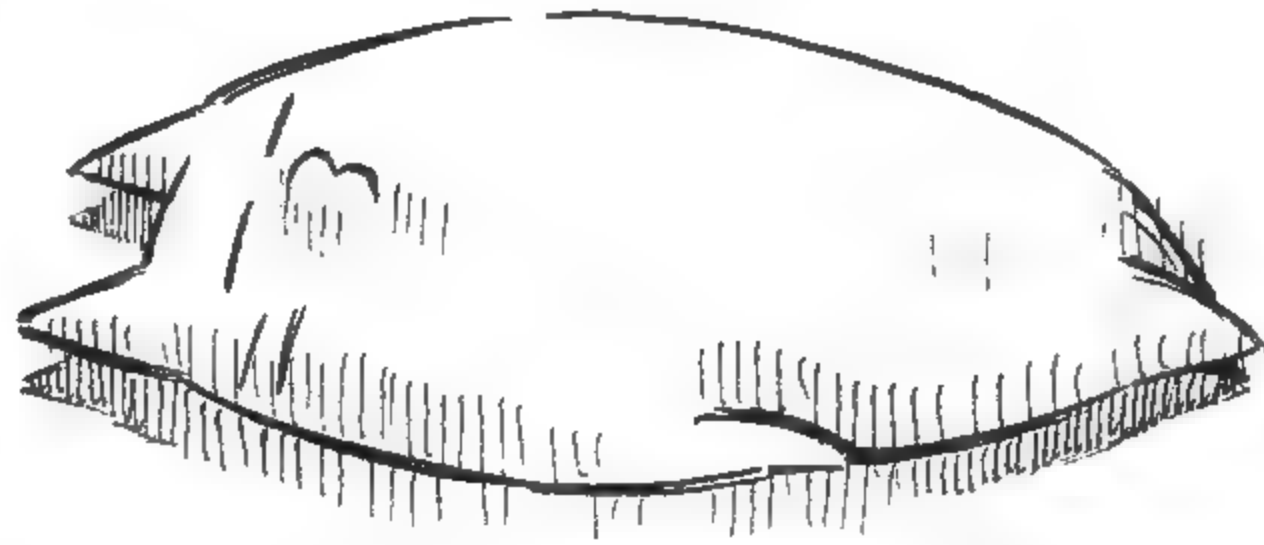


п.46▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶п.47

TO BE HONEST, I DON'T HAVE MANY MEMORIES OF THIS PERIOD.

NATURALLY I HAD TO WORRY ABOUT THE MANUSCRIPT, BUT I ALSO HAD OTHER THINGS LIKE MOVING, LOOKING FOR ASSISTANTS, ETC.

DRAW A MANUSCRIPT... LOOK FOR A HOME... GATHER ASSISTANTS... CALL PEOPLE... PLAY VIDEO GAMES... EAT... PLAY VIDEO GAMES... EAT... SIIIGH...



I HAD NO TIME TO SAVOR THE JOY OF HAVING A NEW SERIES TO DRAW (THERE WERE ONLY THREE MONTHS BEFORE IT STARTED).

* IMAGE: SOMEONE WITH SO MUCH TO DO THEY CAN'T DO ANYTHING AT ALL.

...AND BEING QUITE PLEASED WITH MY DASHING ENTRANCE, AS I RODE UP TO MY NEW HOME ON MY BIKE. (IT HURTS ME NOW.)

INCIDENTALLY, THE STRINGS ARE ALL RUSTED OVER.



BUT THE NEW PLACE I FOUND WAS CLOSE TO MY OLD PLACE, SO WHAT I DO REMEMBER IS STRAPPING THE GUITAR I'D PURCHASED LONG AGO TO MY BACK (CAN'T PLAY IT, WON'T PLAY IT)...

WHIRL
113
2113
WHIRL

THE NIGHT BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF WORK, I WAS A MESS OF NERVES.

THIS IS NOT A HEALTHY HEART-BEAT!!

WHAT IF THEY SAY MY ROOM STINKS?!

HUFF

MY ASSISTANTS ARE COMING TOMORROW!! WHAT DO I DO?!

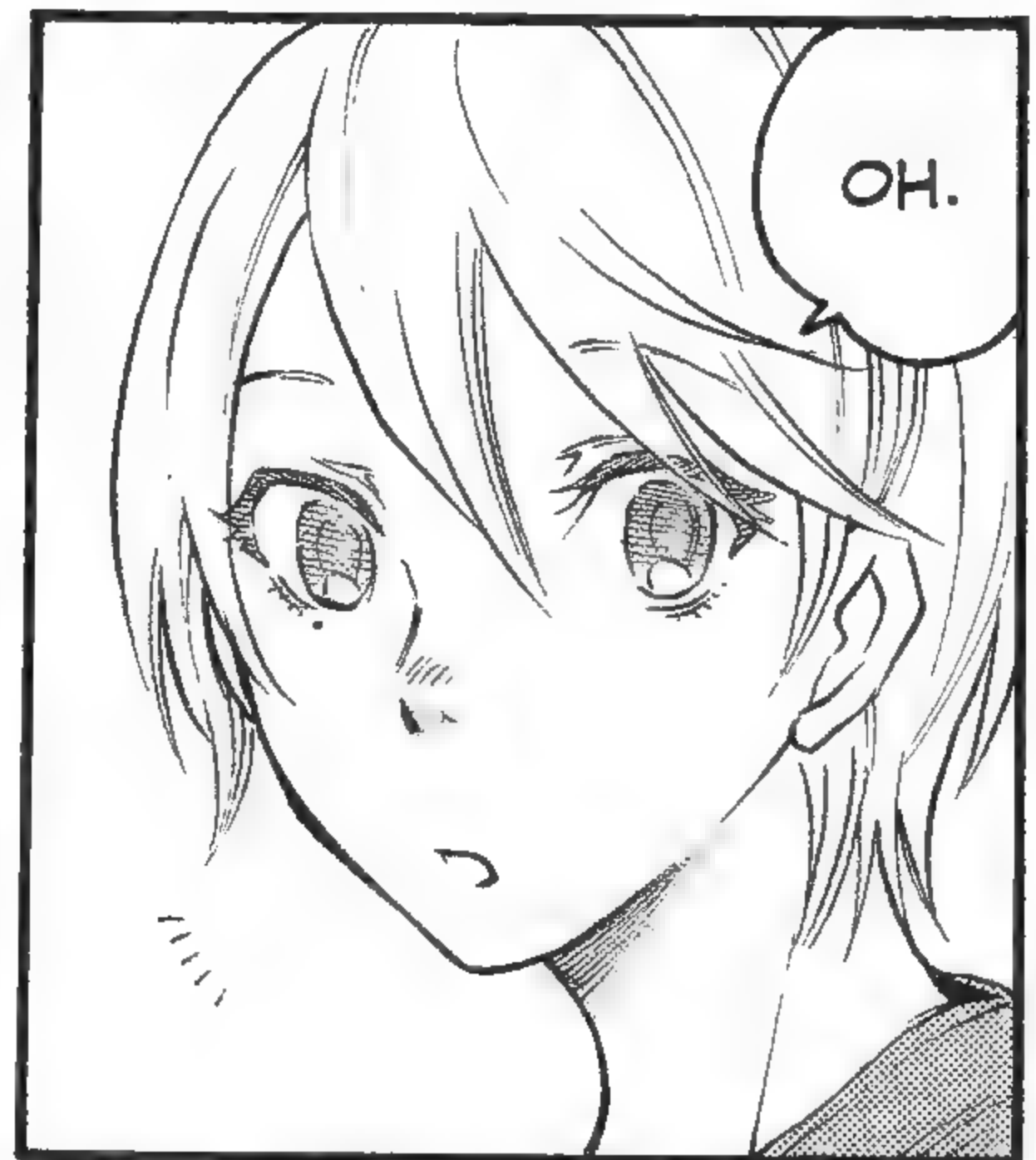
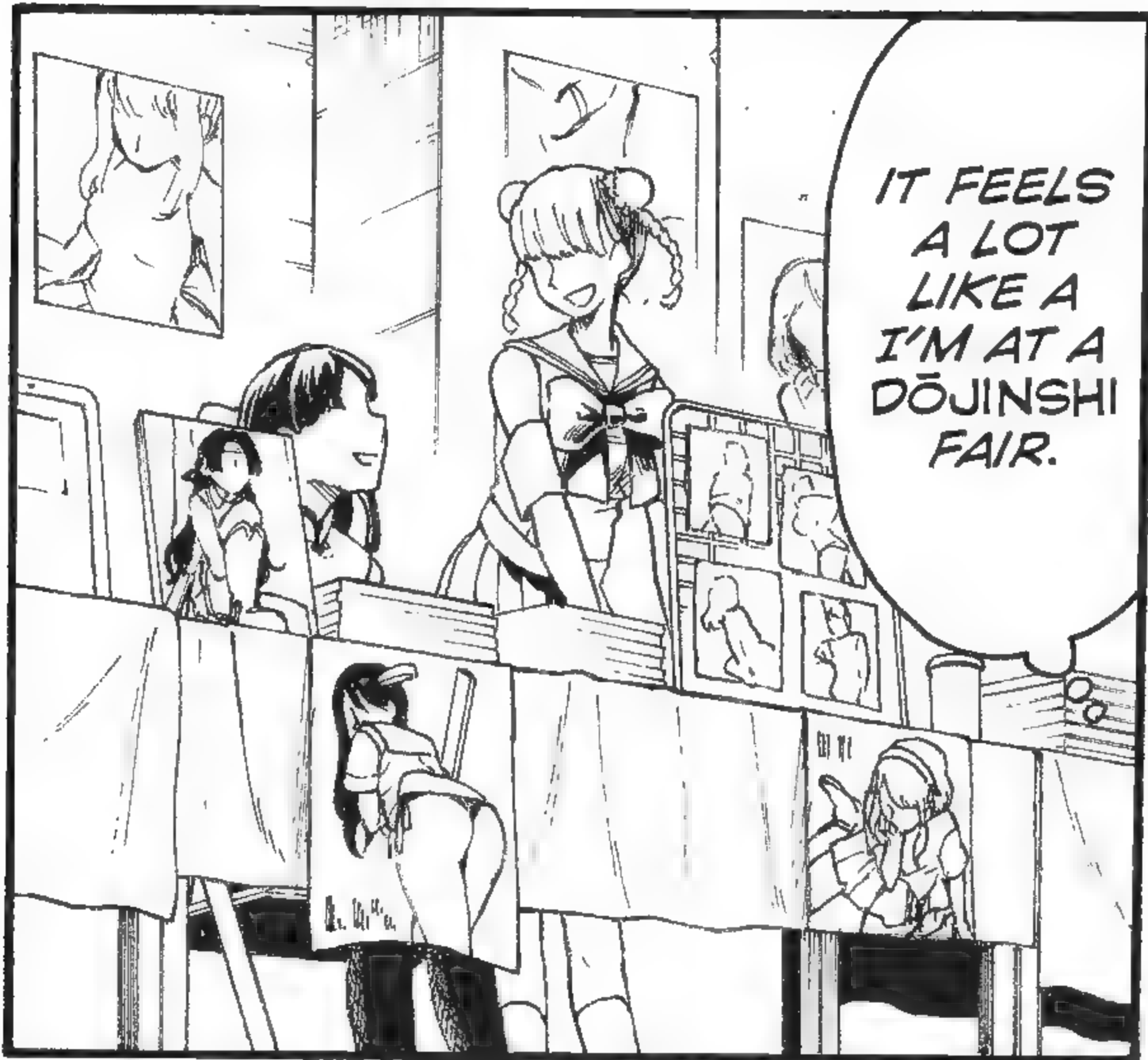
I FINISHED MOVING AND FOUND ASSISTANTS WITHOUT TOO MUCH TROUBLE.

113
2113
WHIRL

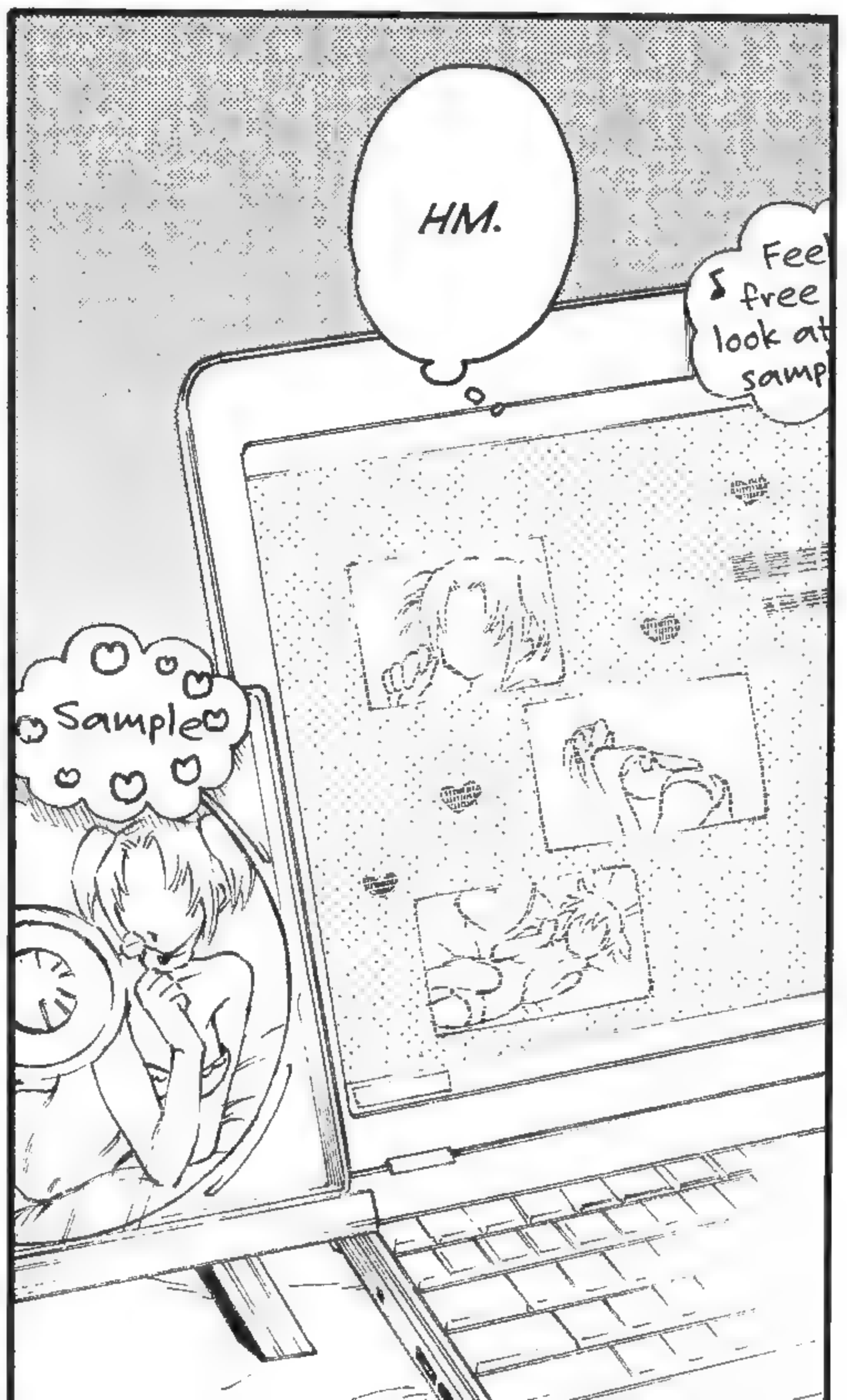
Label: Deodorant

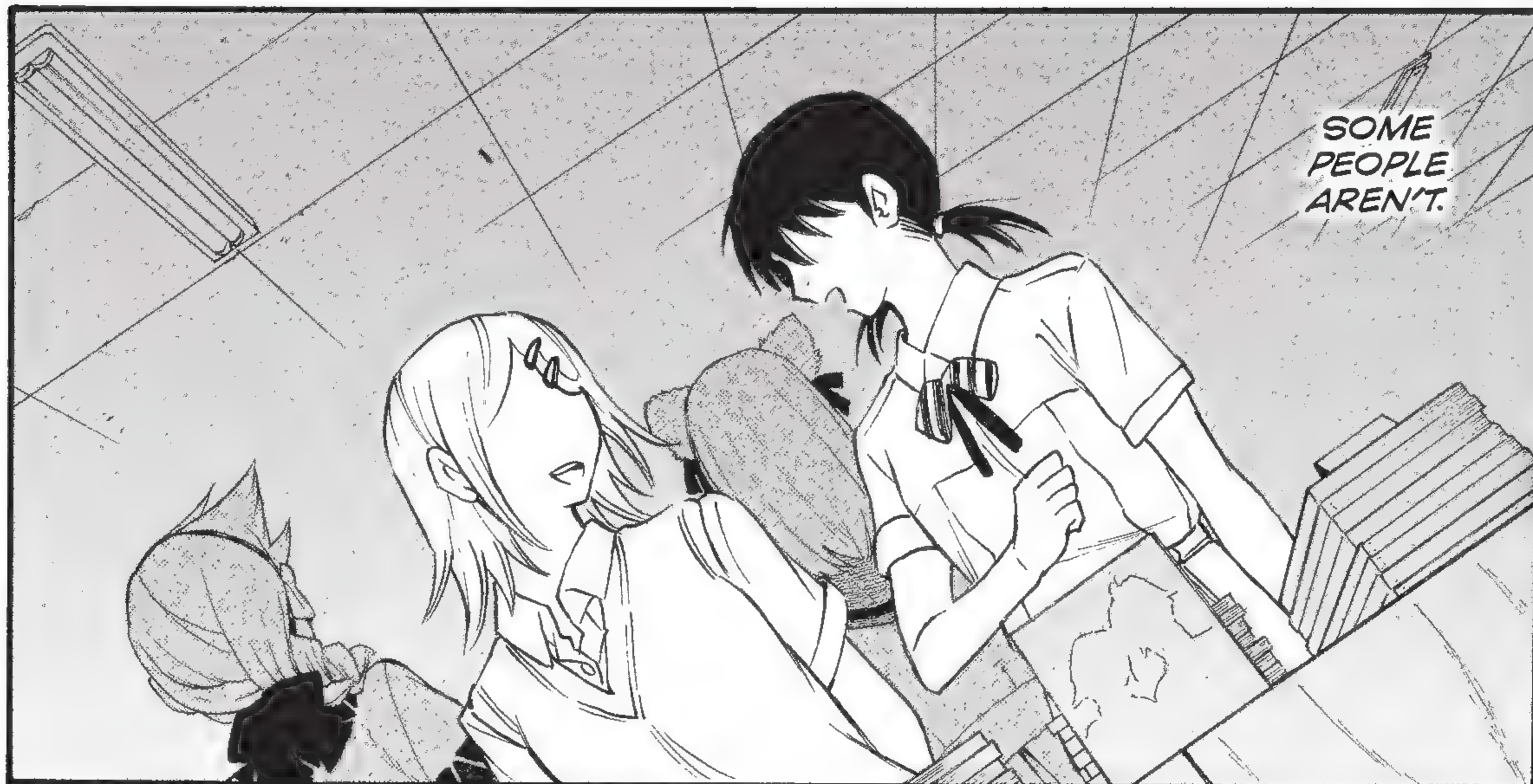
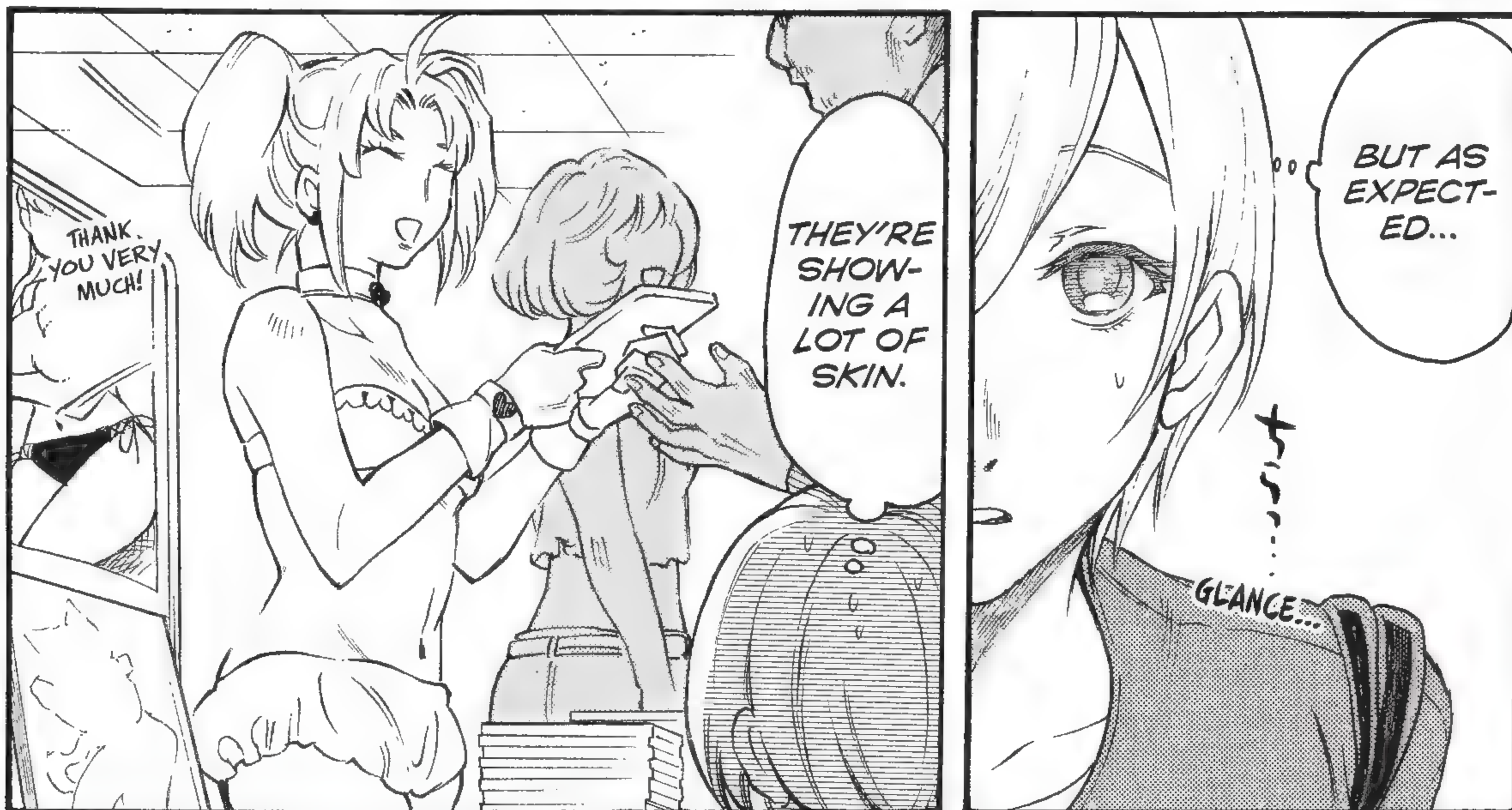
113
2113
WHIRL





Note: 1,000-1,500 yen is about 10-15 USD.





BUT THERE'S
A DISTINCT
DIFFERENCE
IN THE
AMOUNT OF
PEOPLE WHO
WILL GO SEE
THEM.



SO THE
R-18 THING
DEFINITELY
DOESN'T
APPLY TO
EVERYONE.

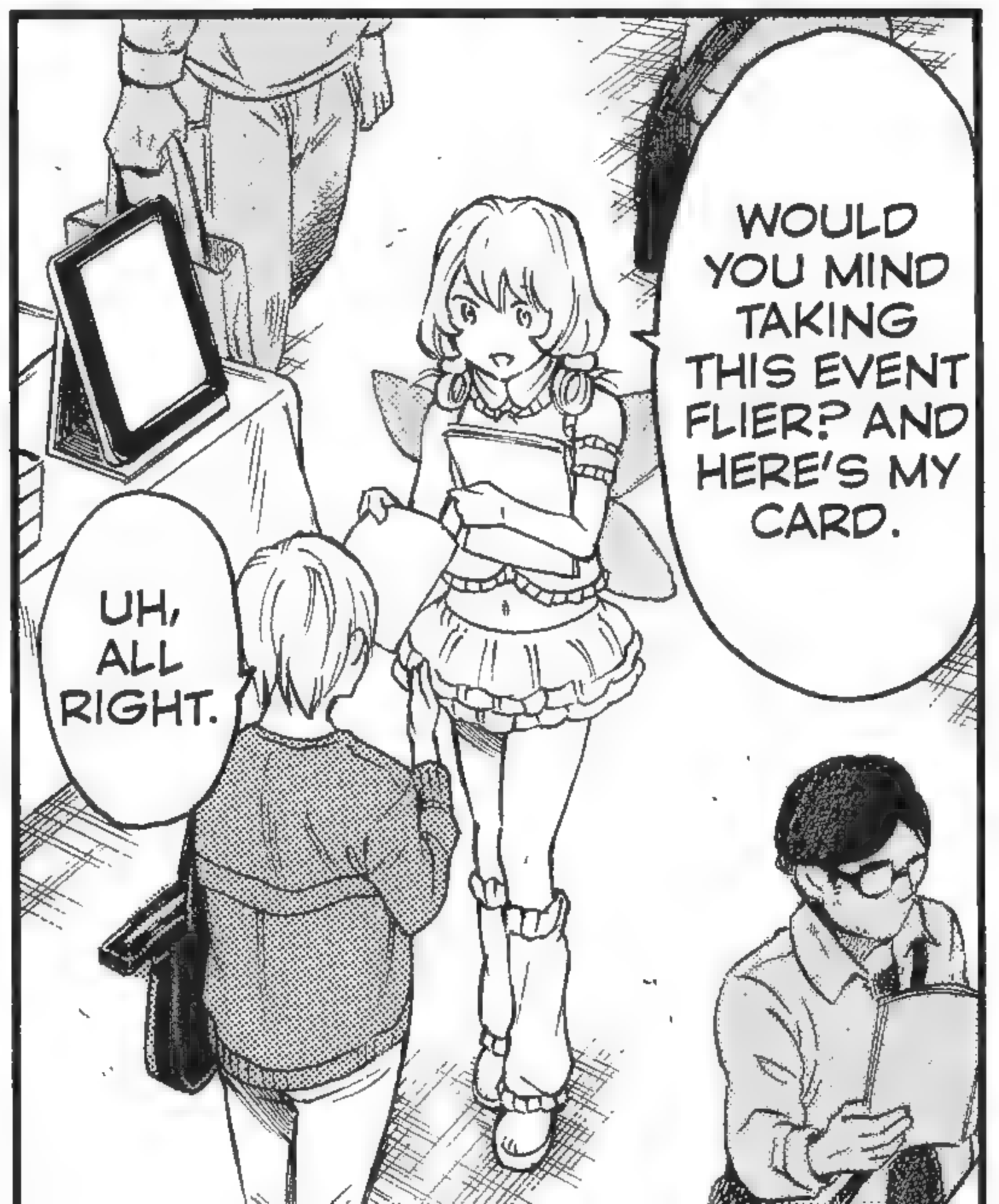
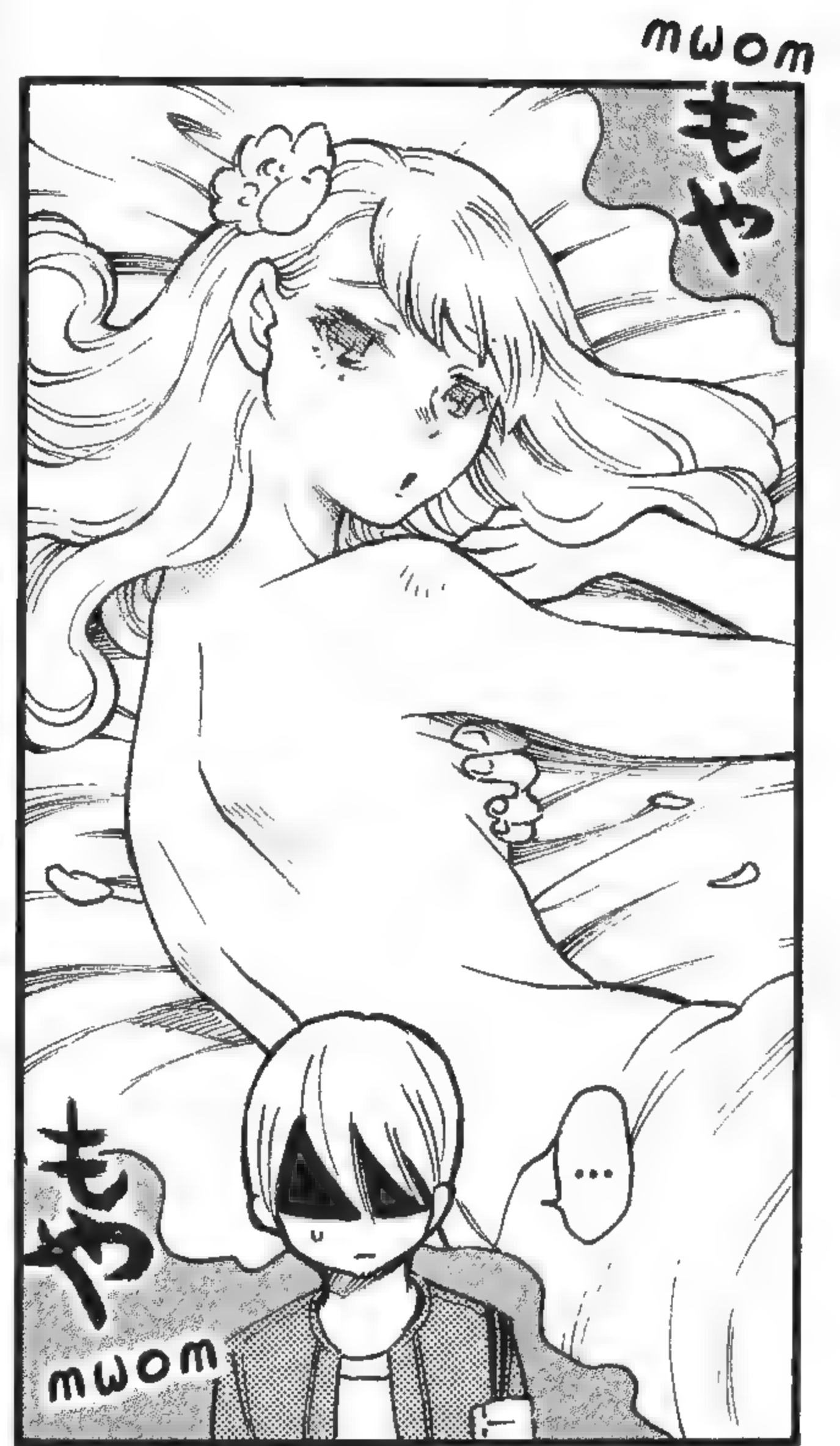
350 PHOTOS
500 YEN!
* No erotic content!

SOME OF THE
PEOPLE HERE
ARE SELLING
COS-ROMS
JUST TO GET
PEOPLE TO
SEE A COSPLAY
THEY WANT TO
REMEMBER.

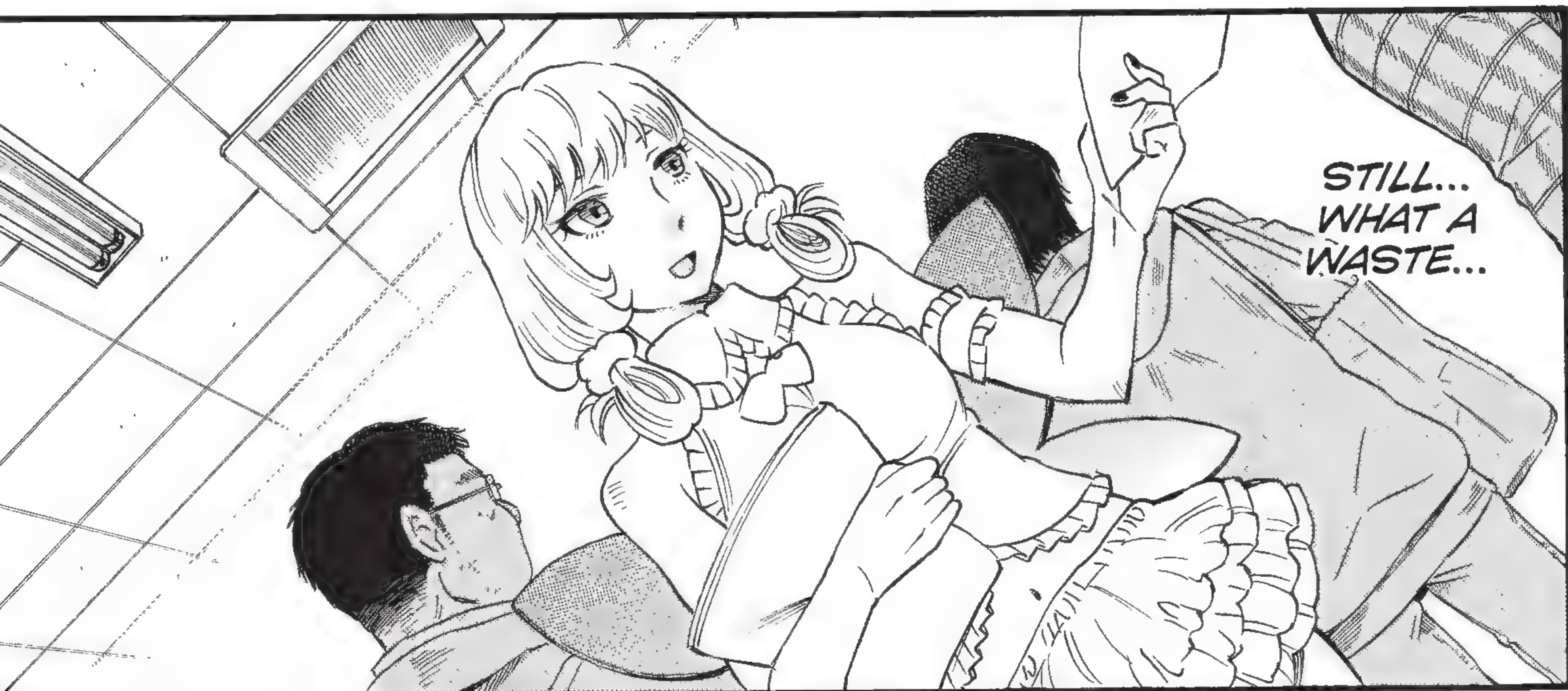
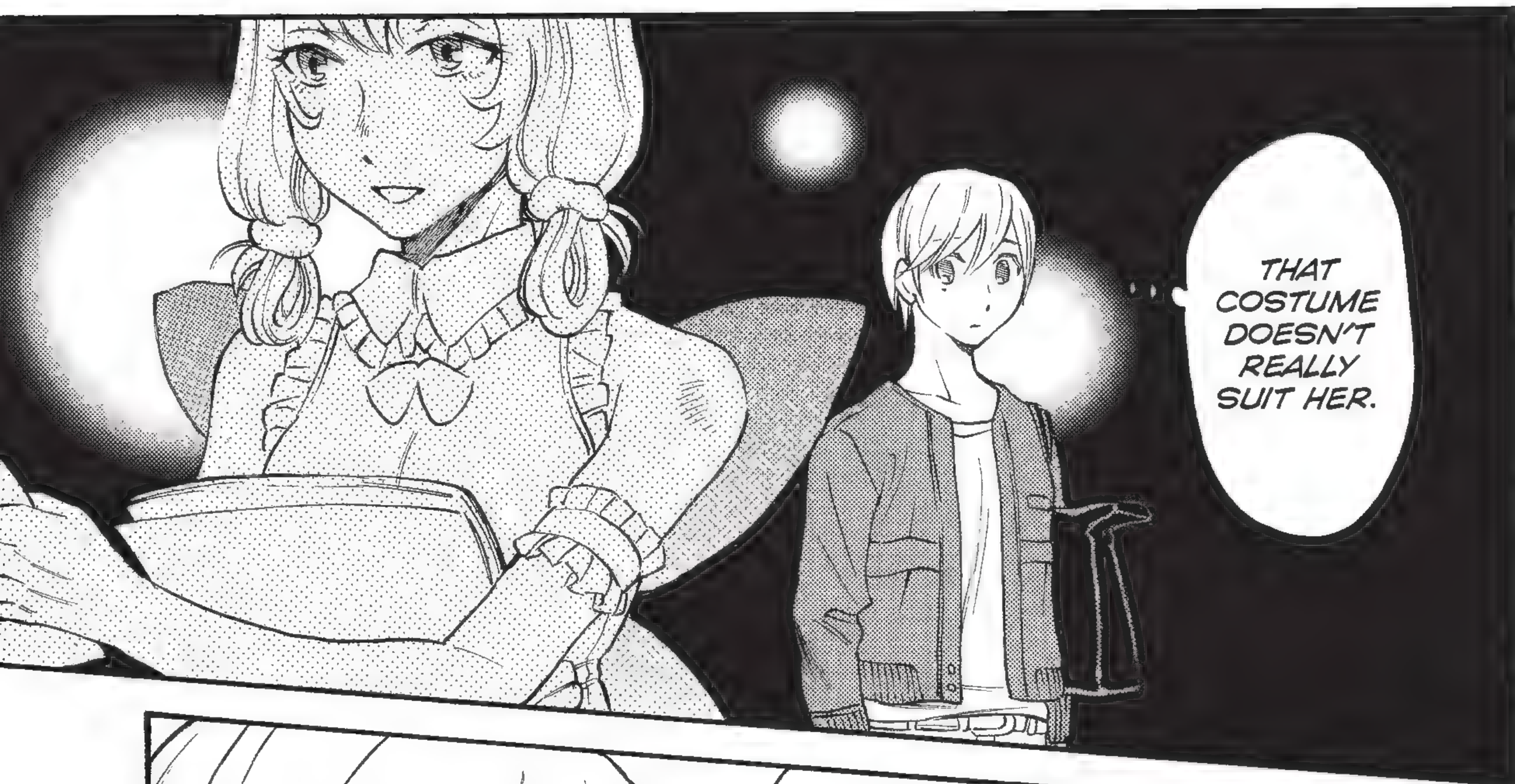
IF THAT
SOMETHING
IS EXPOSED
SKIN...

...THEN
YOU NEED
TO BRING
SOMETHING
MORE TO
THE TABLE
THAN YOUR
OWN SATIS-
FACTION.

BUT
IF YOU
WANNA
MAKE A
PROFIT
...









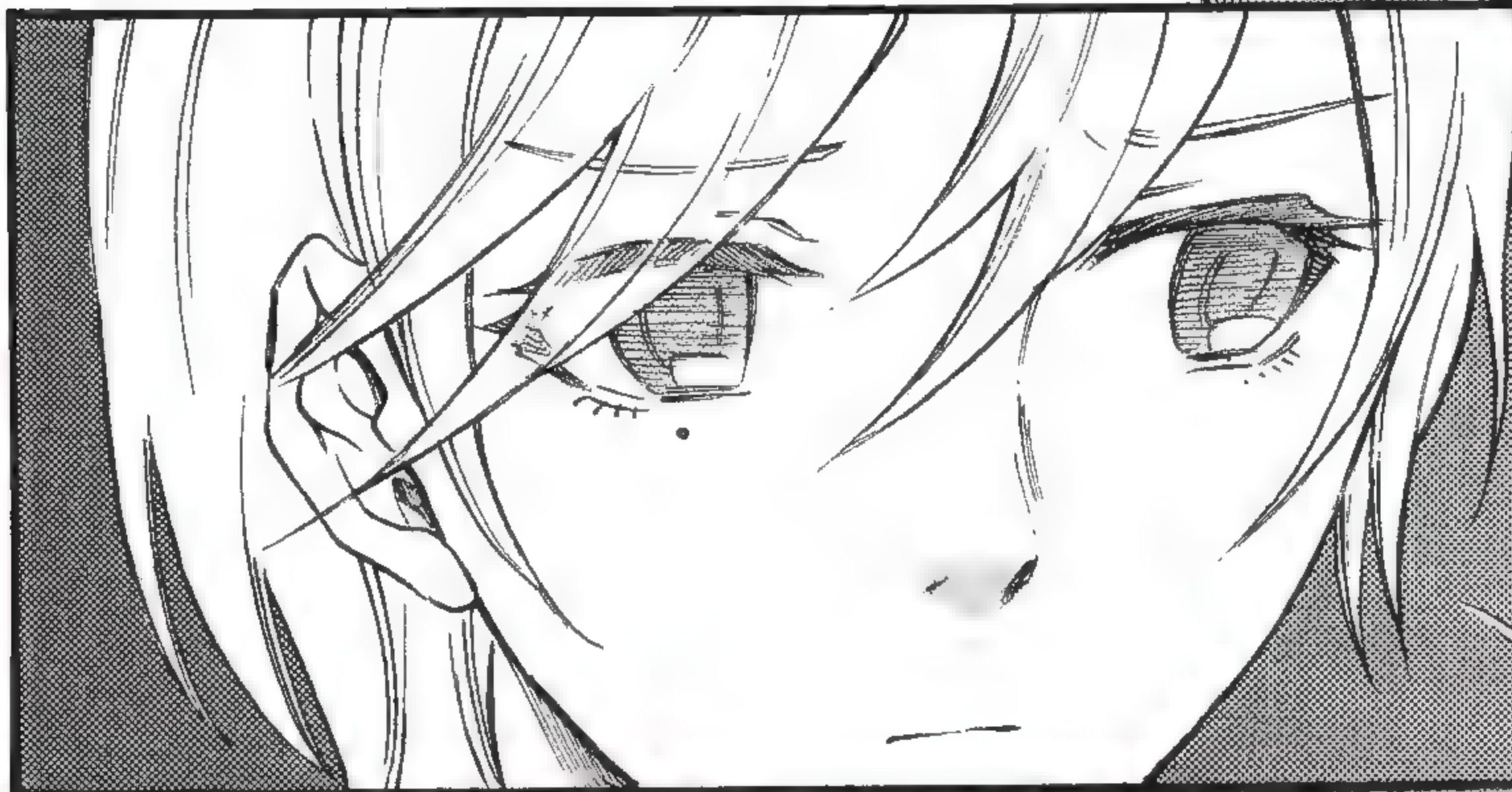
GASP
は、



THAT
GIRL
IS...

HER
SKIRT'S
TOO
LONG.

I SEE
YOUR
TAPE.



YOU
DIDN'T
COME
HERE TO
THINK
ABOUT
THOSE
THINGS.

STOP
IT.

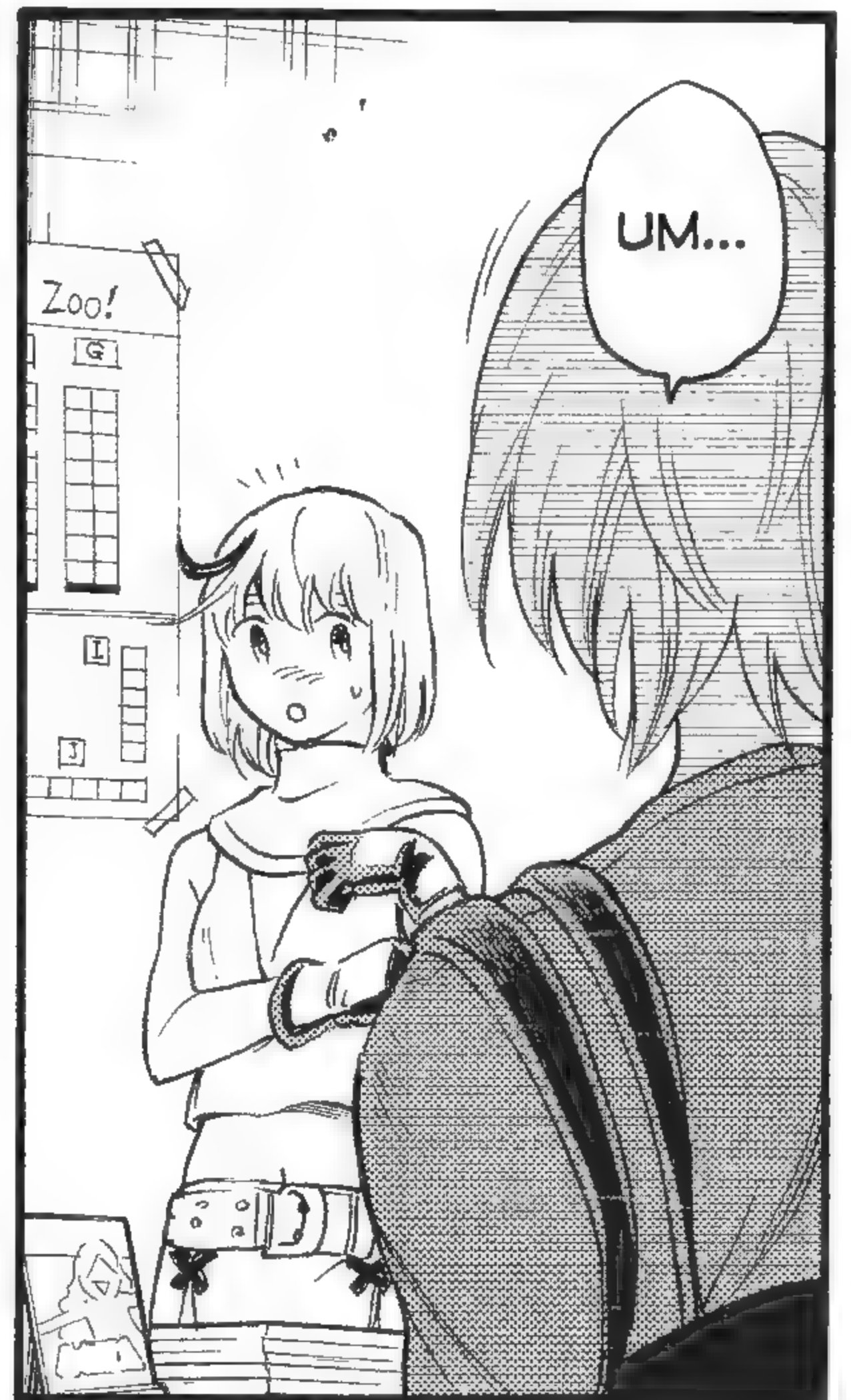
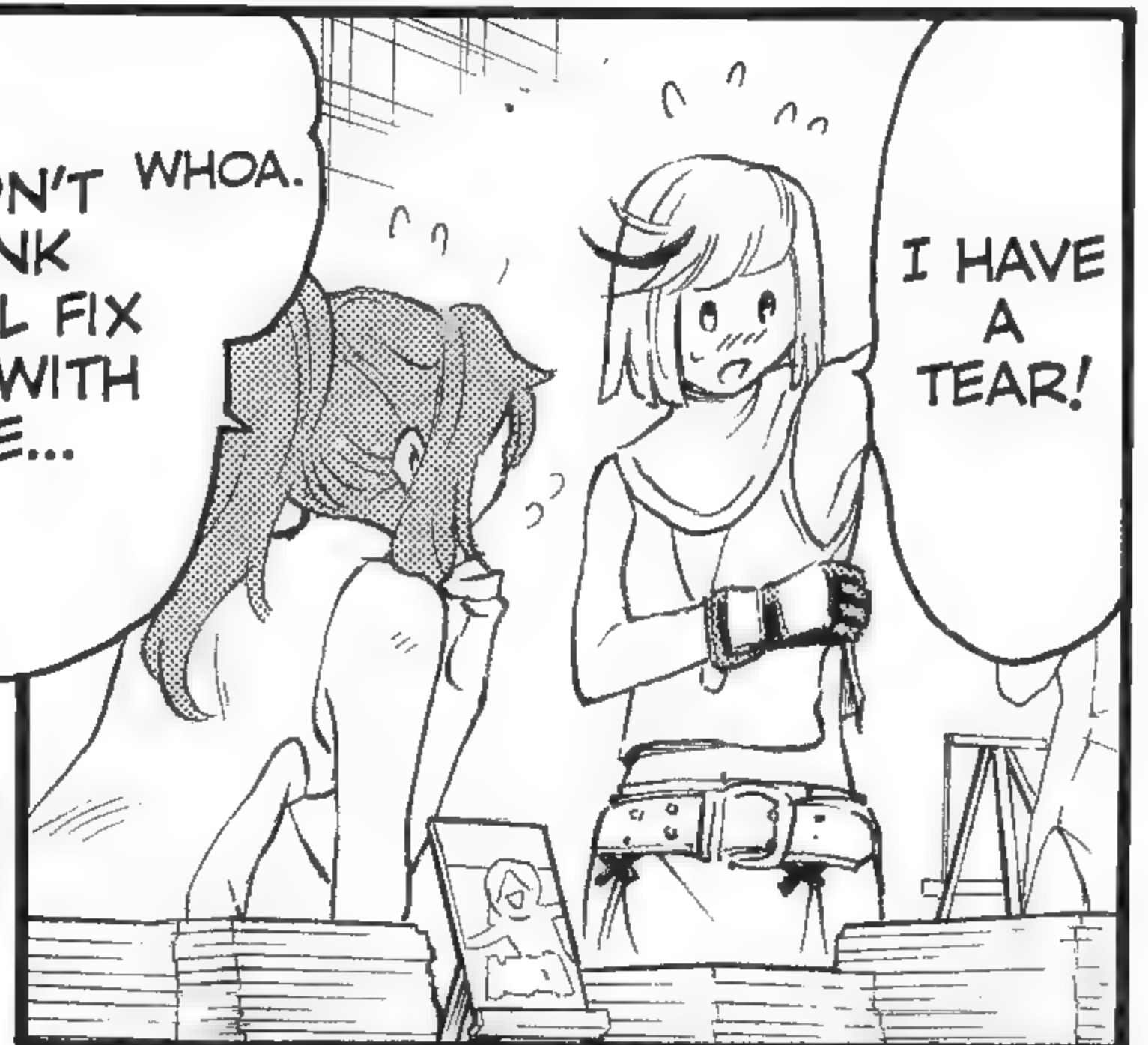


IT'S
A BAD
HABIT.

I WANTED TO
LOOK FOR
SOMETHING
I COULD DO,
BUT I CAN'T
STOP MYSELF
FROM
LOOKING
AT ALL THE
COSPLAYERS'
FLAWS.

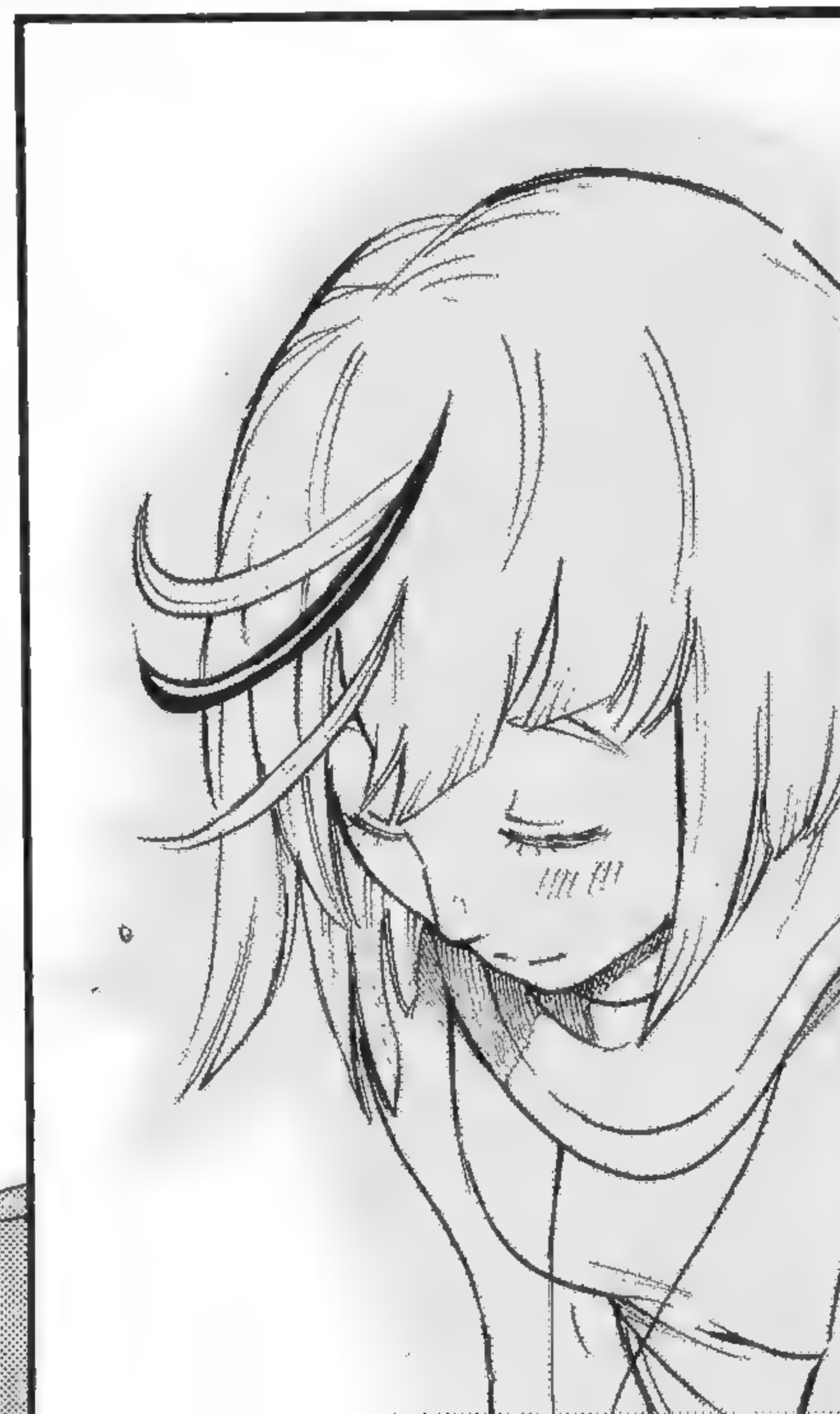
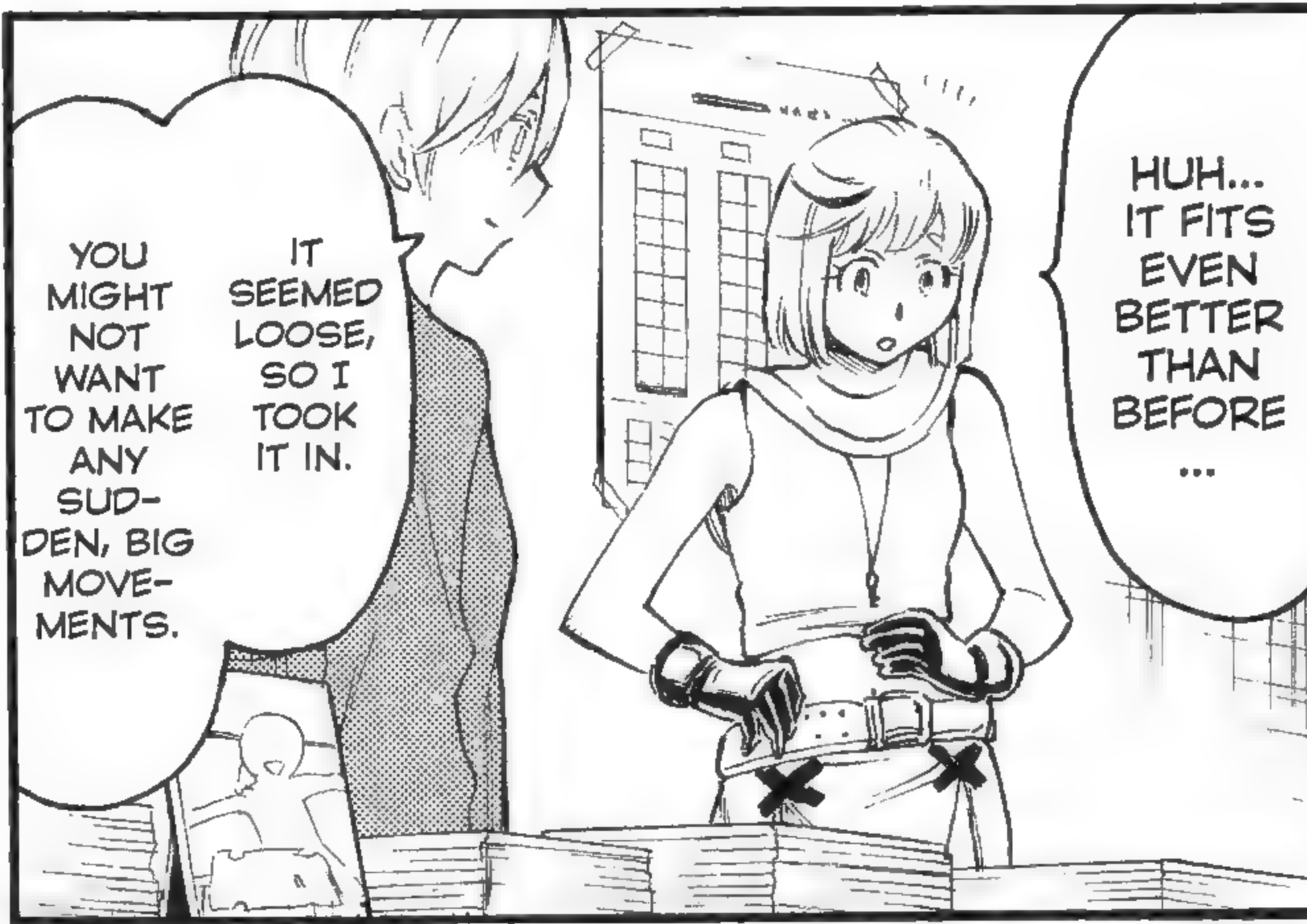
WHAT
IS
THAT?

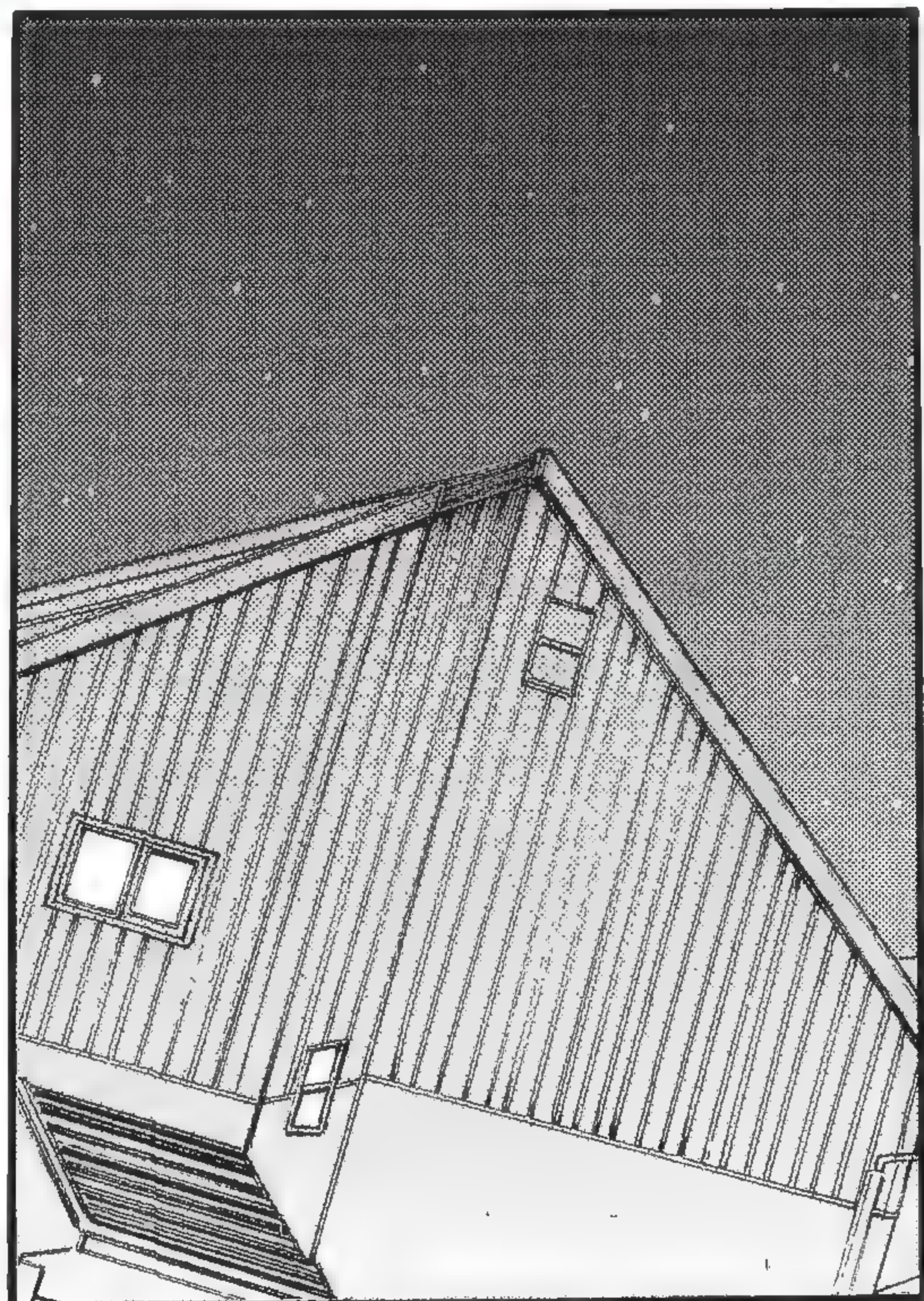
AND
WHY
DON'T
YOU TRY
LOOKING
AT THE
ITEMS
AND
MAKING
THEM
YOUR-
SELF?
THERE
ARE
ABOUT A
MILLION
PLACES
ON THE
INTERNET
THAT
CAN
TELL
YOU
HOW

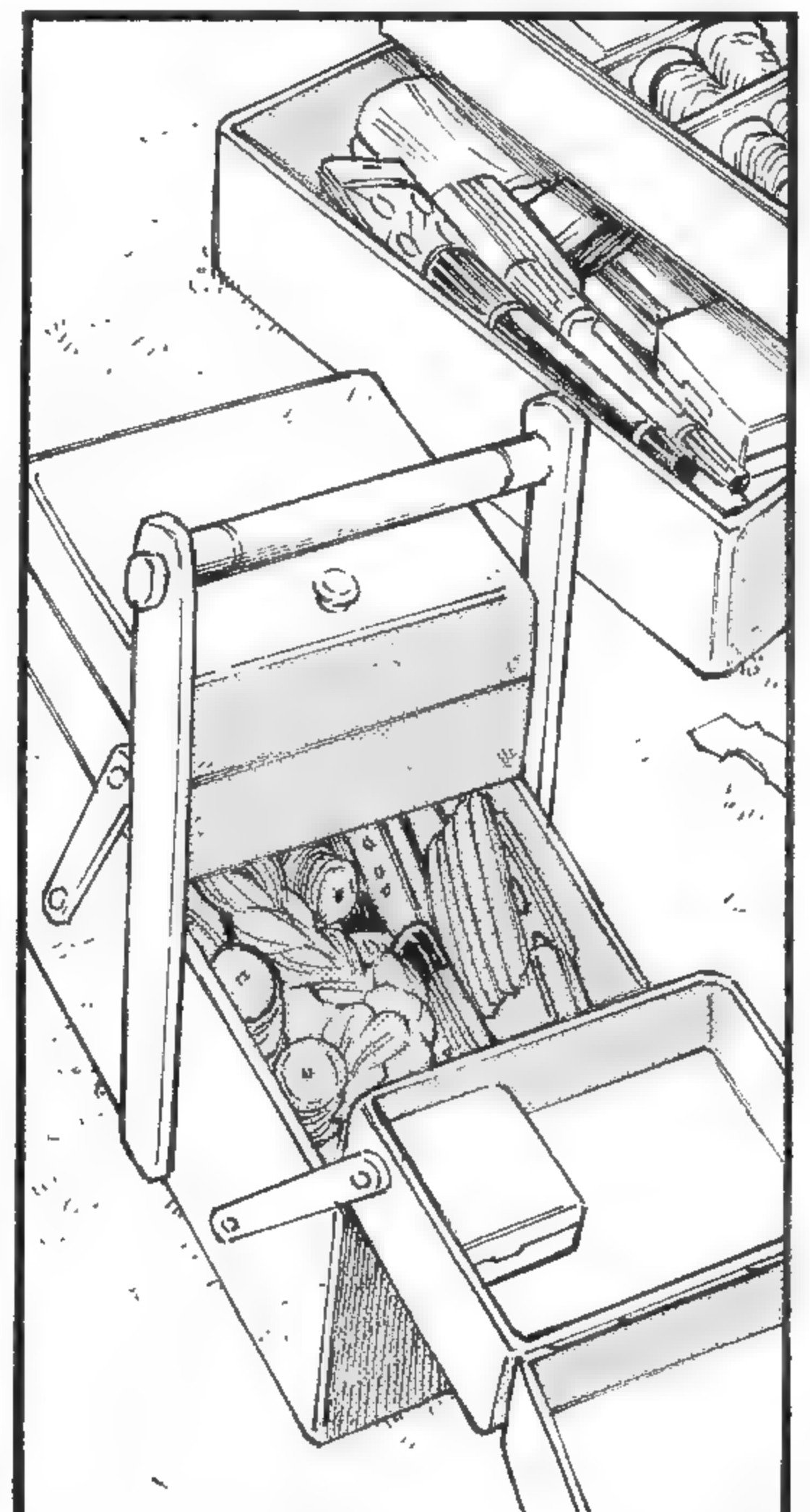
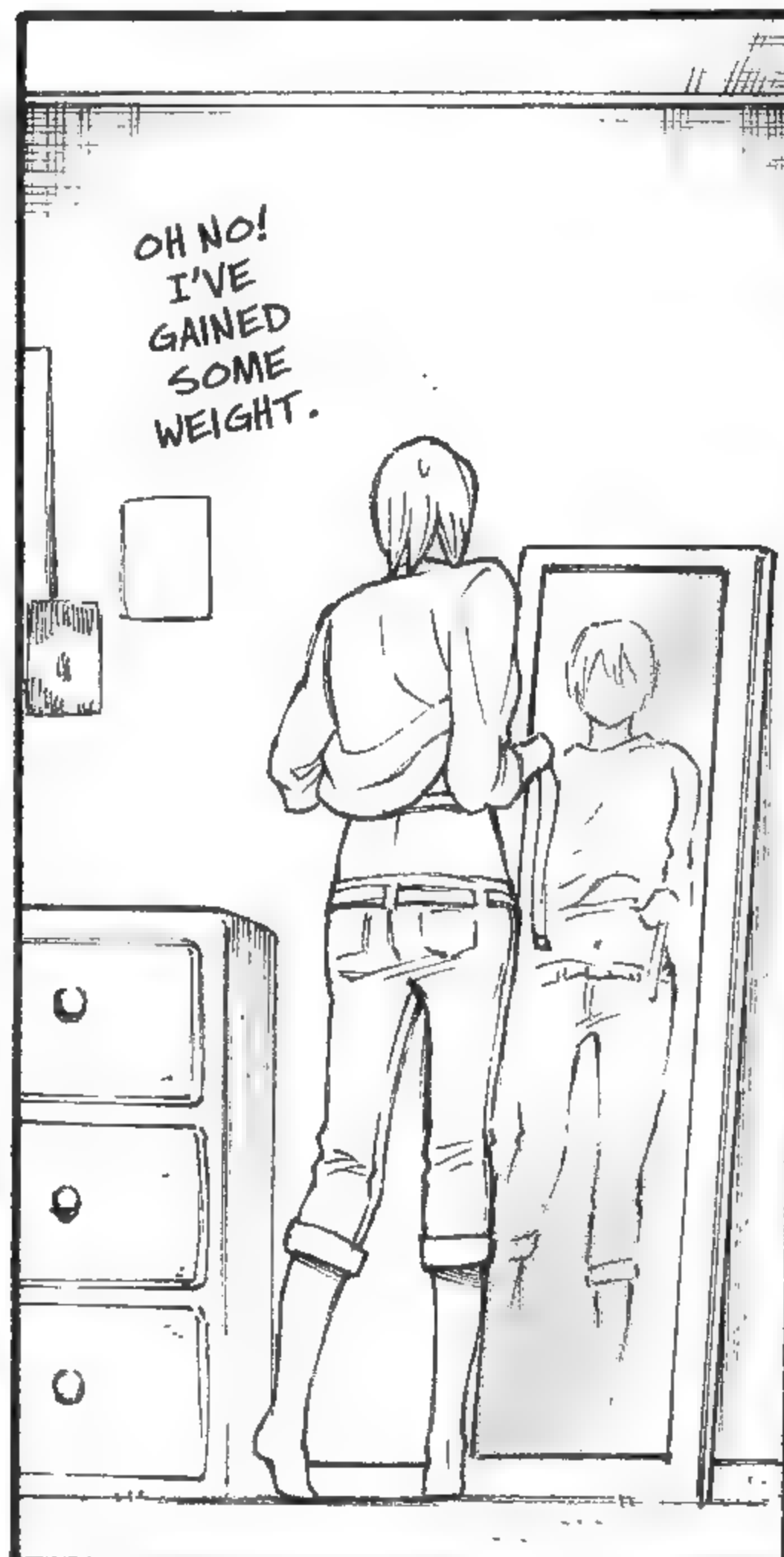
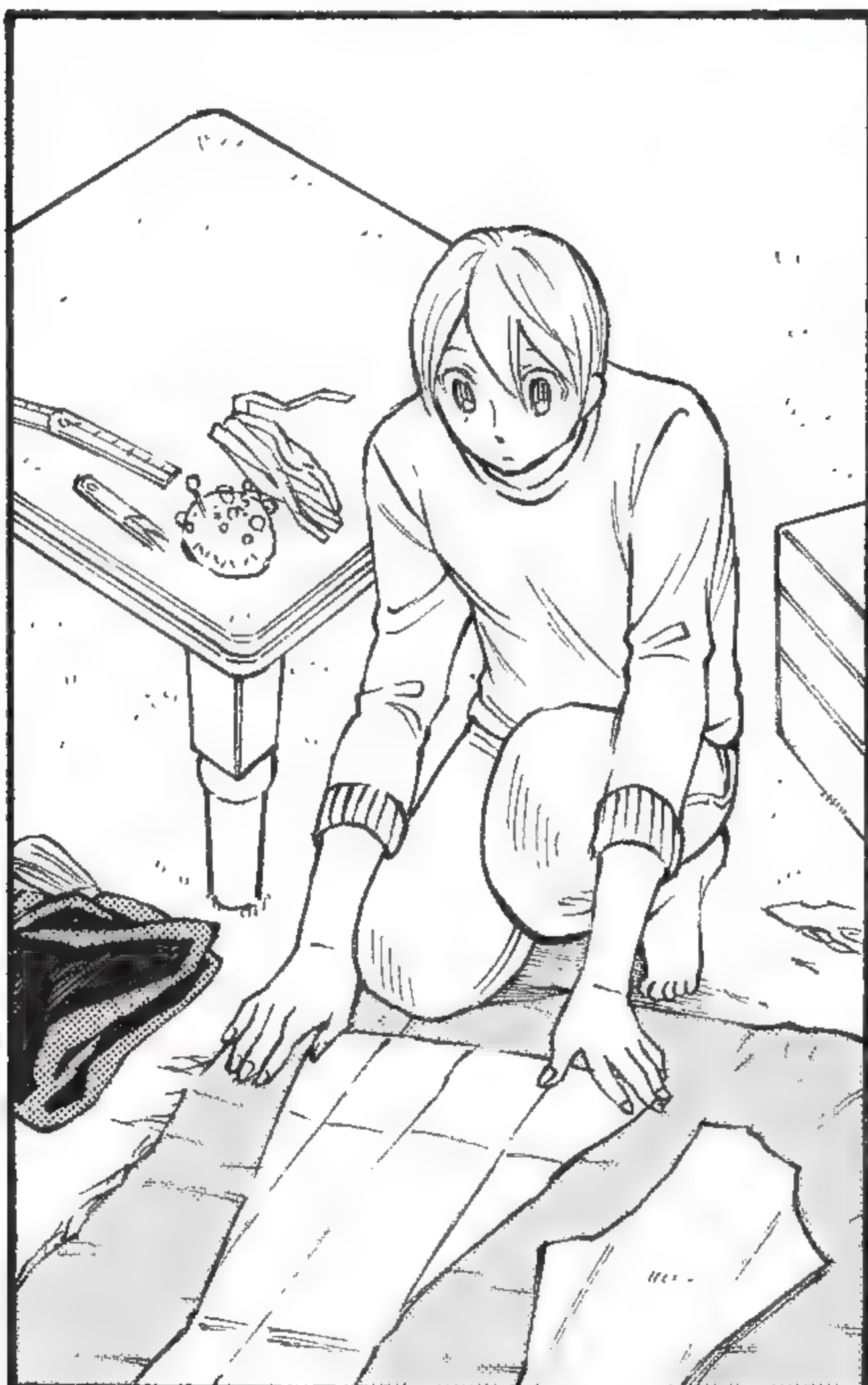
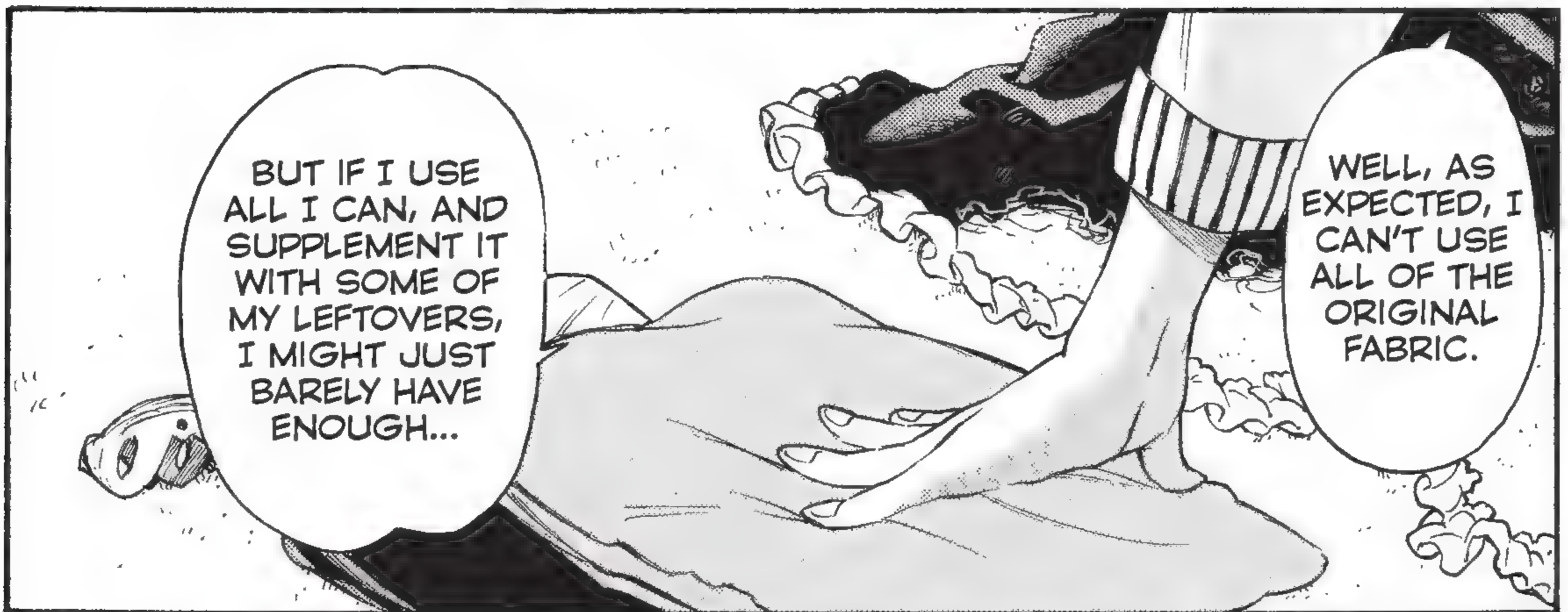
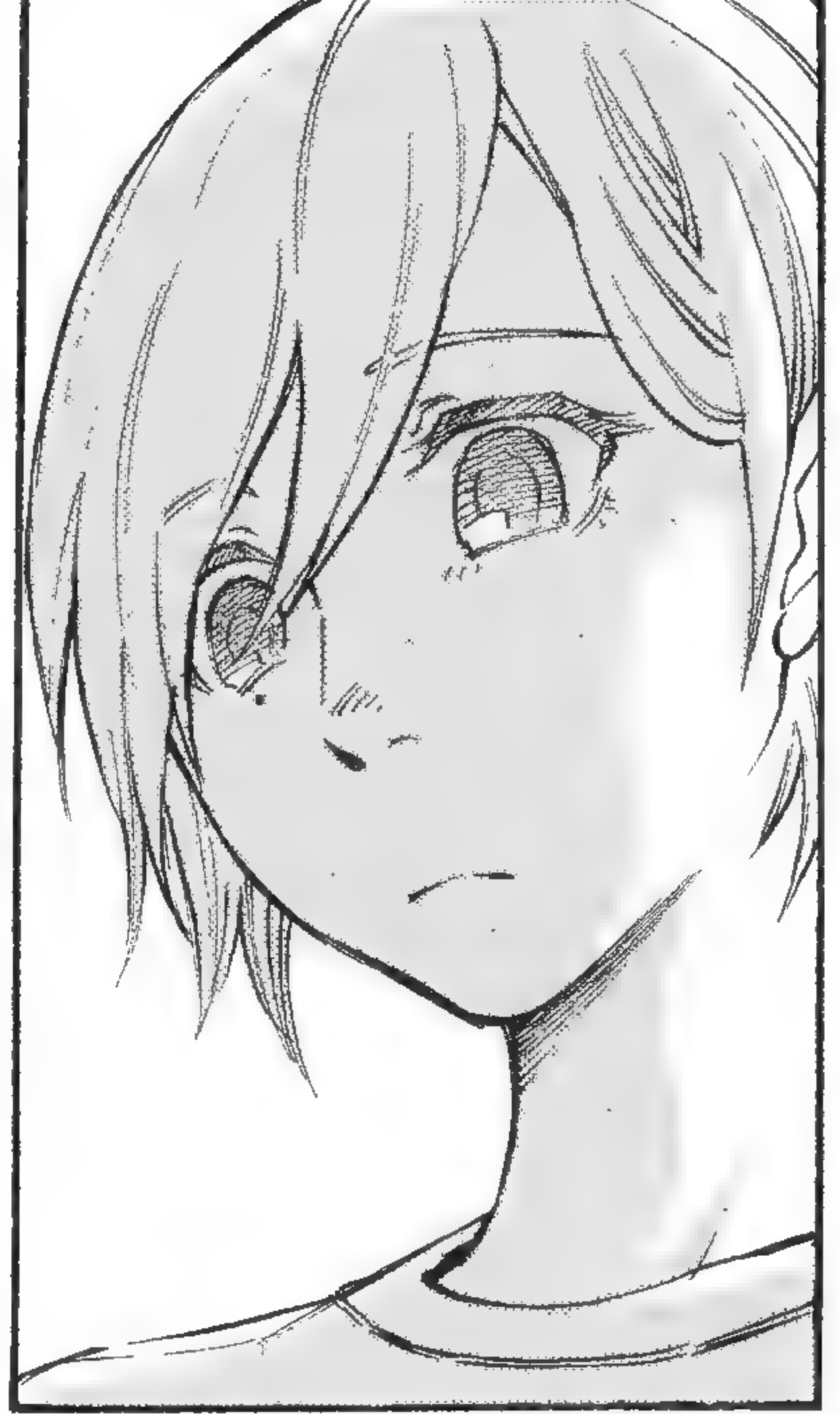
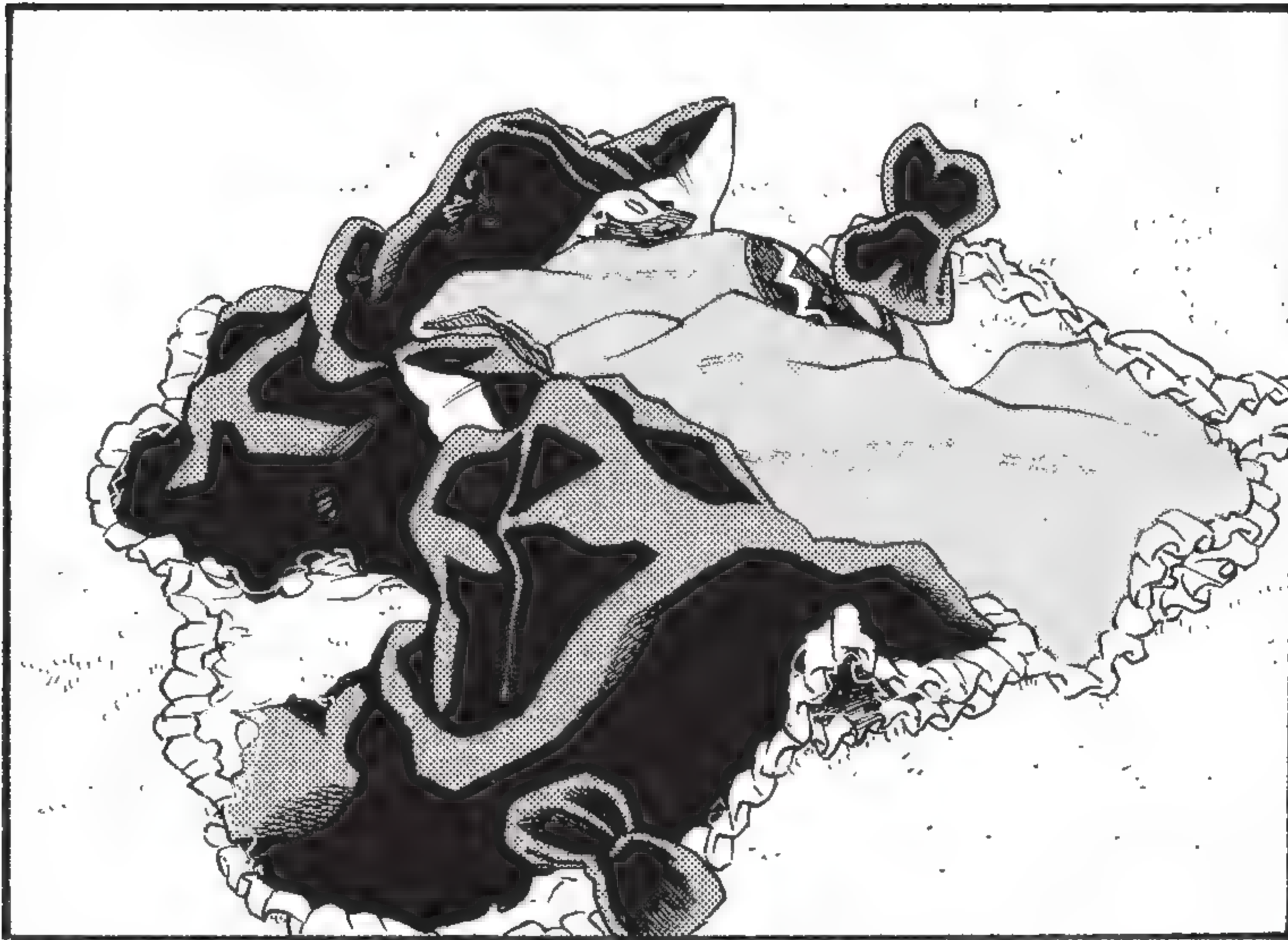


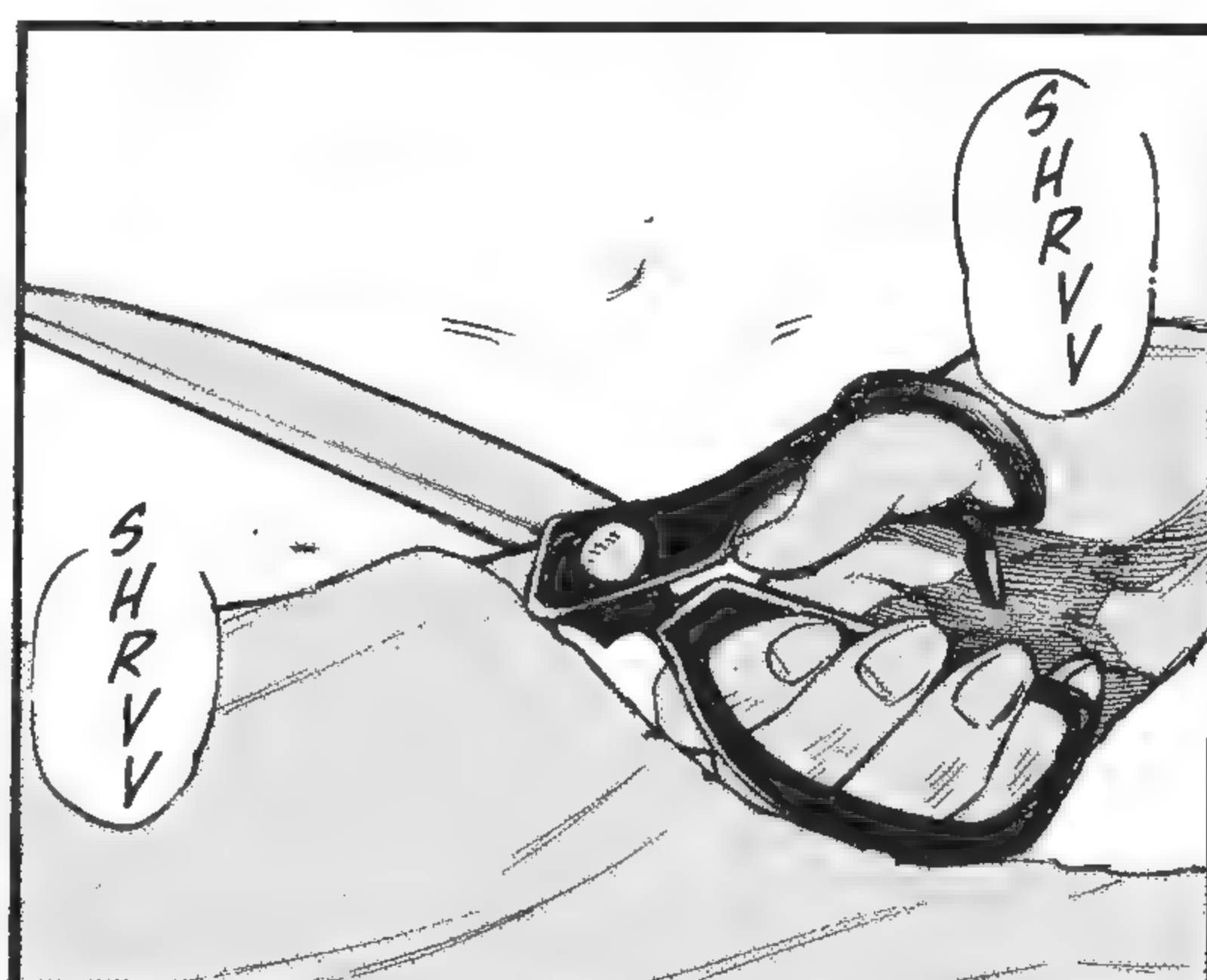
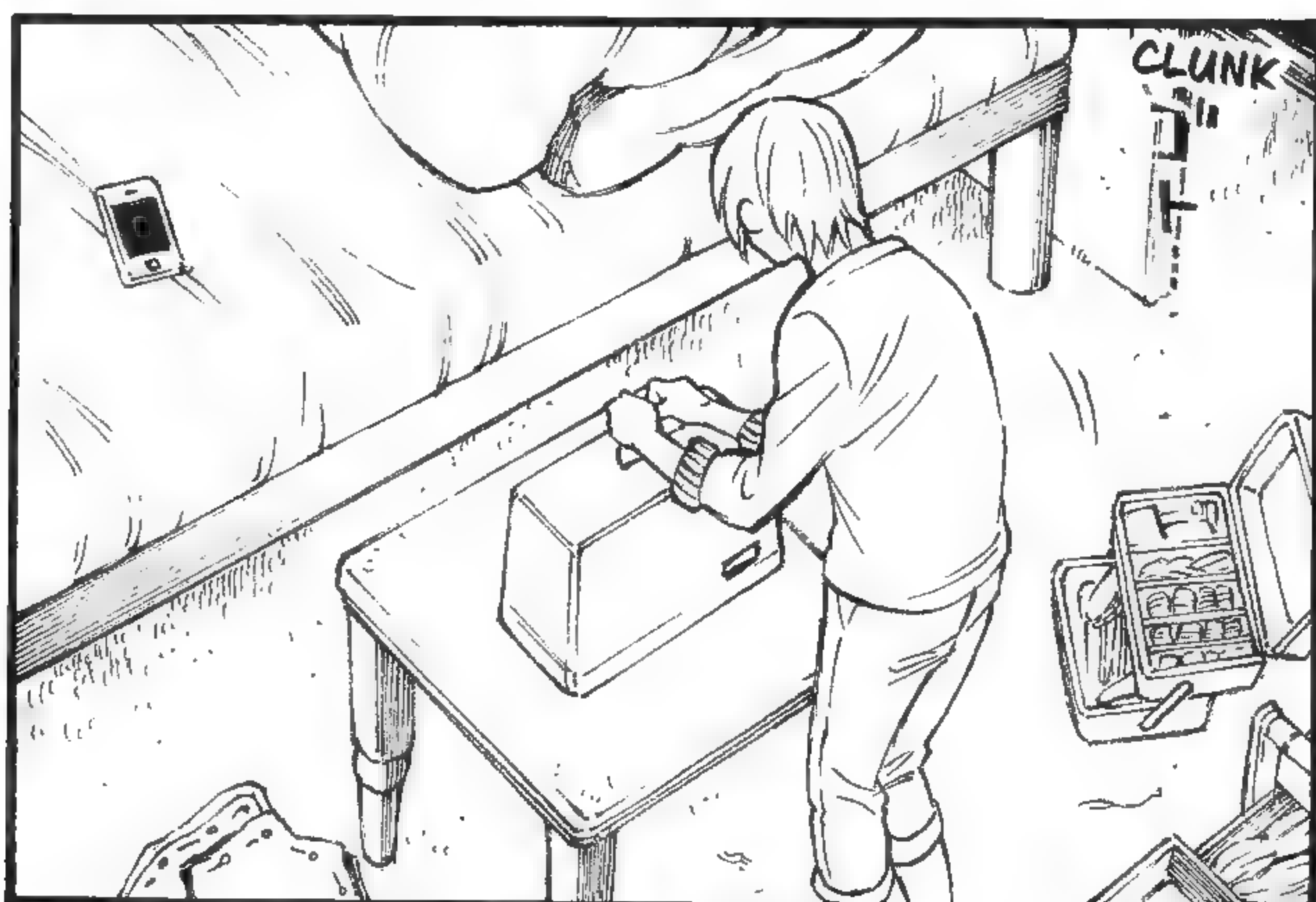
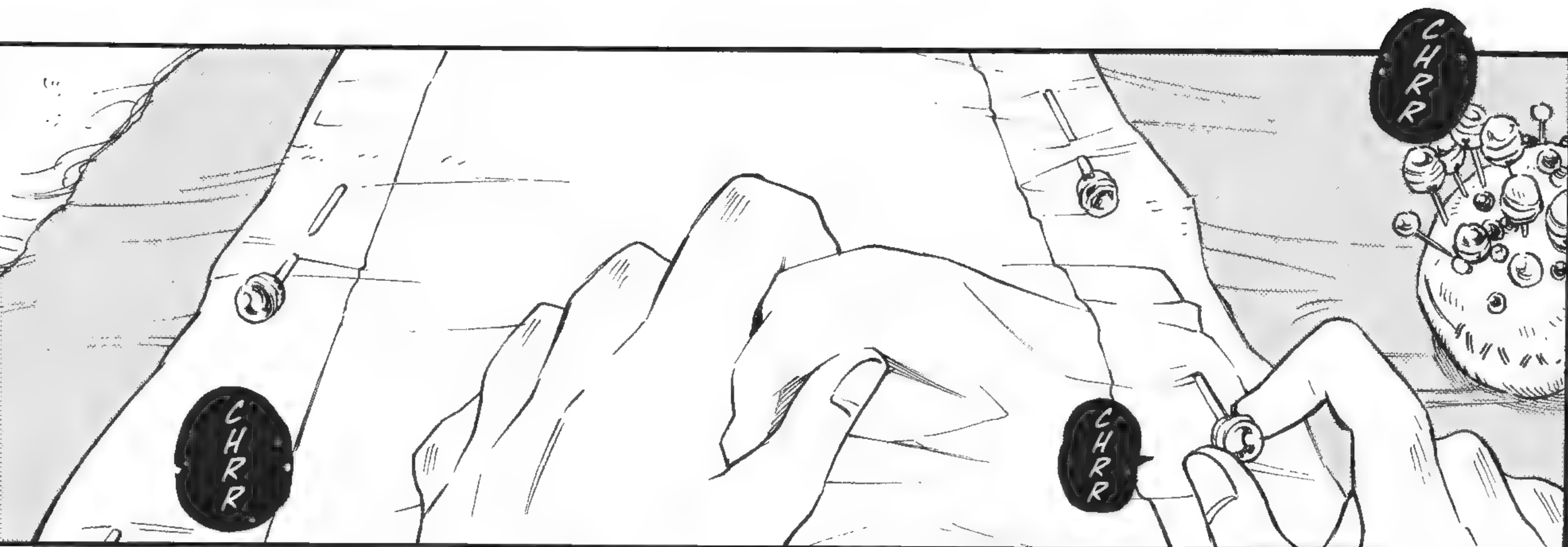


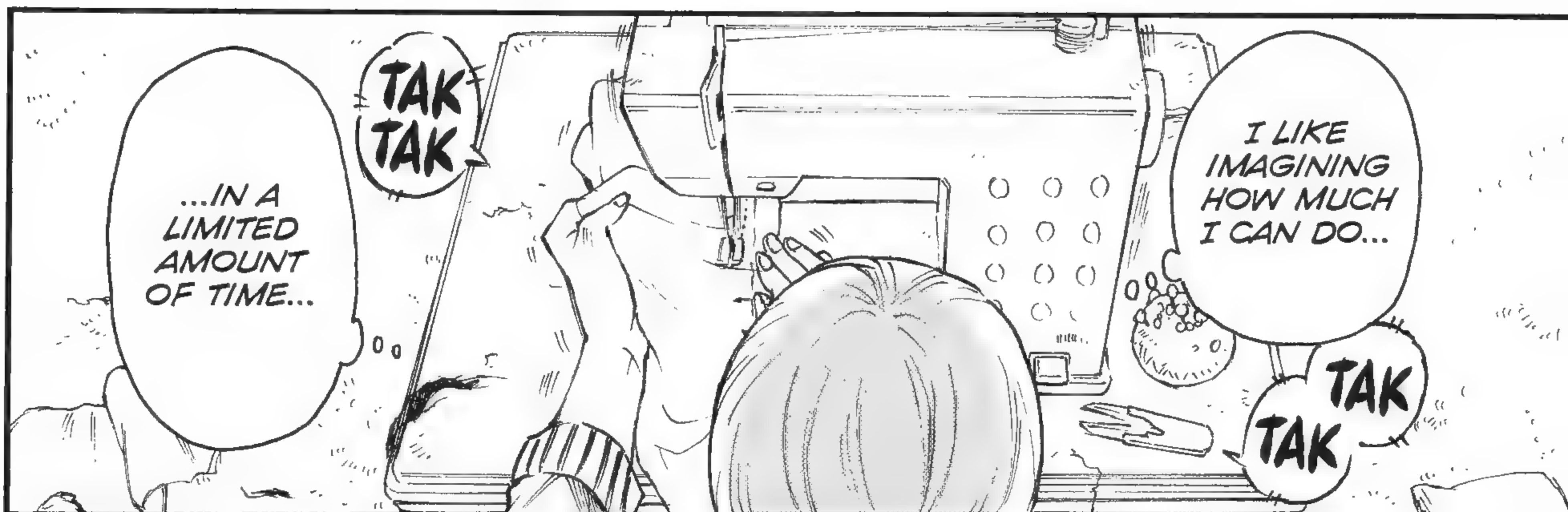
Na HOW IS THAT?

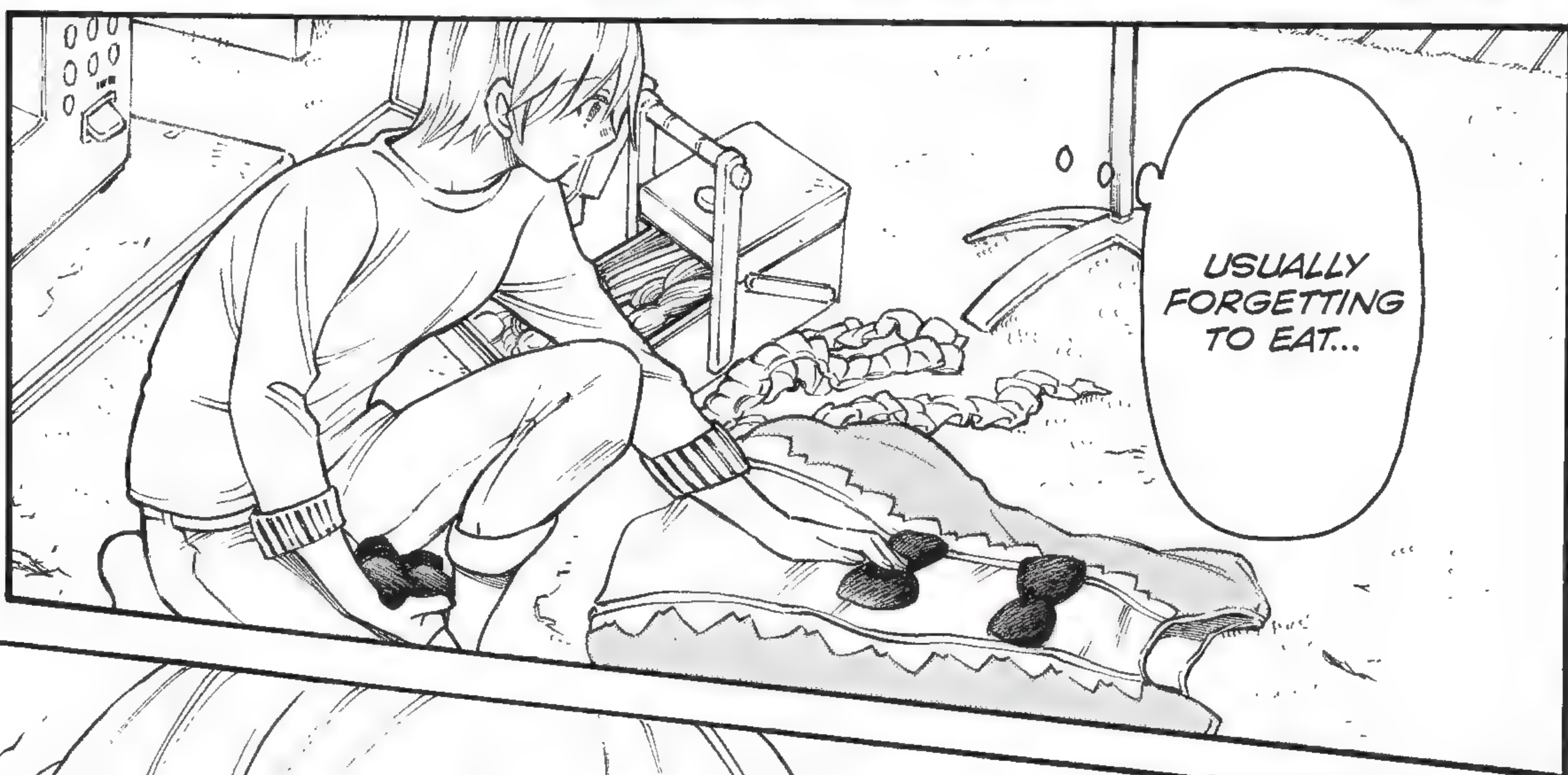
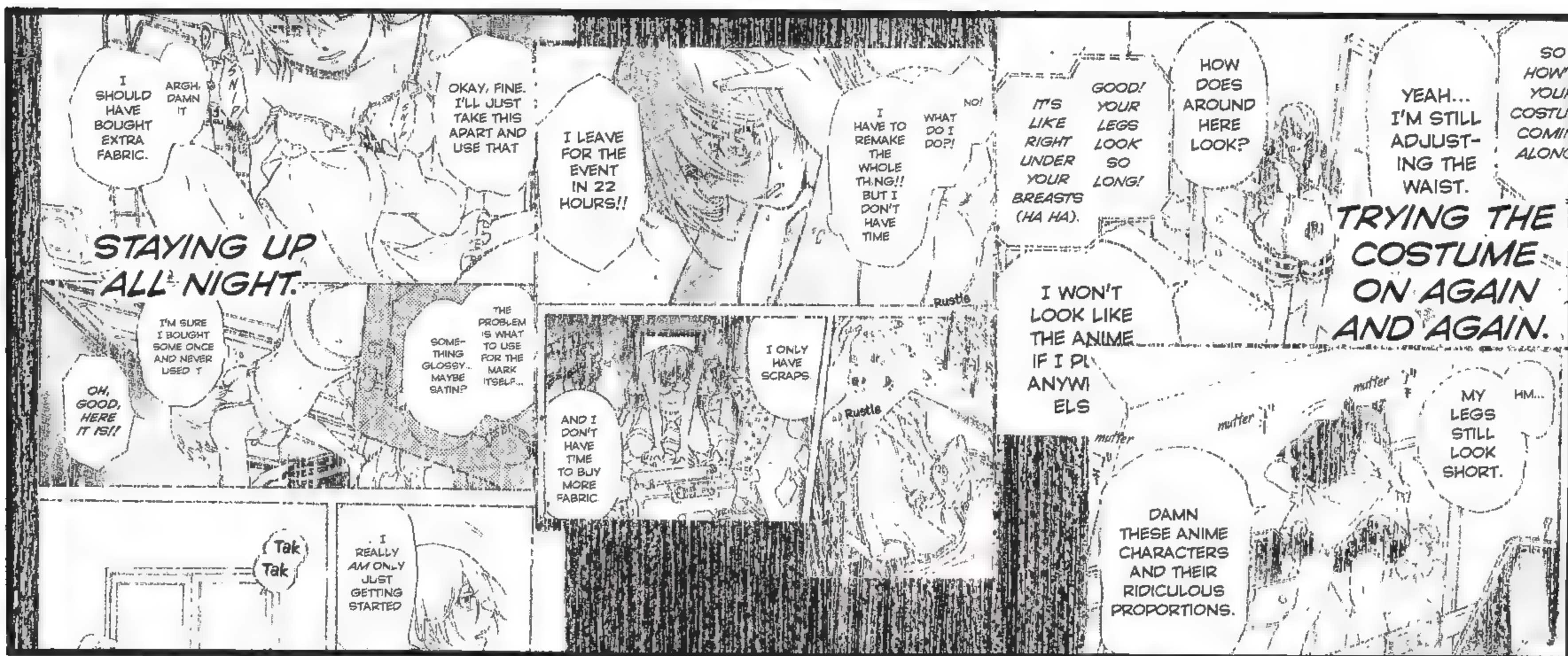












I LOVED
SPENDING
MY TIME
LIKE THIS.





CHIRP チン...

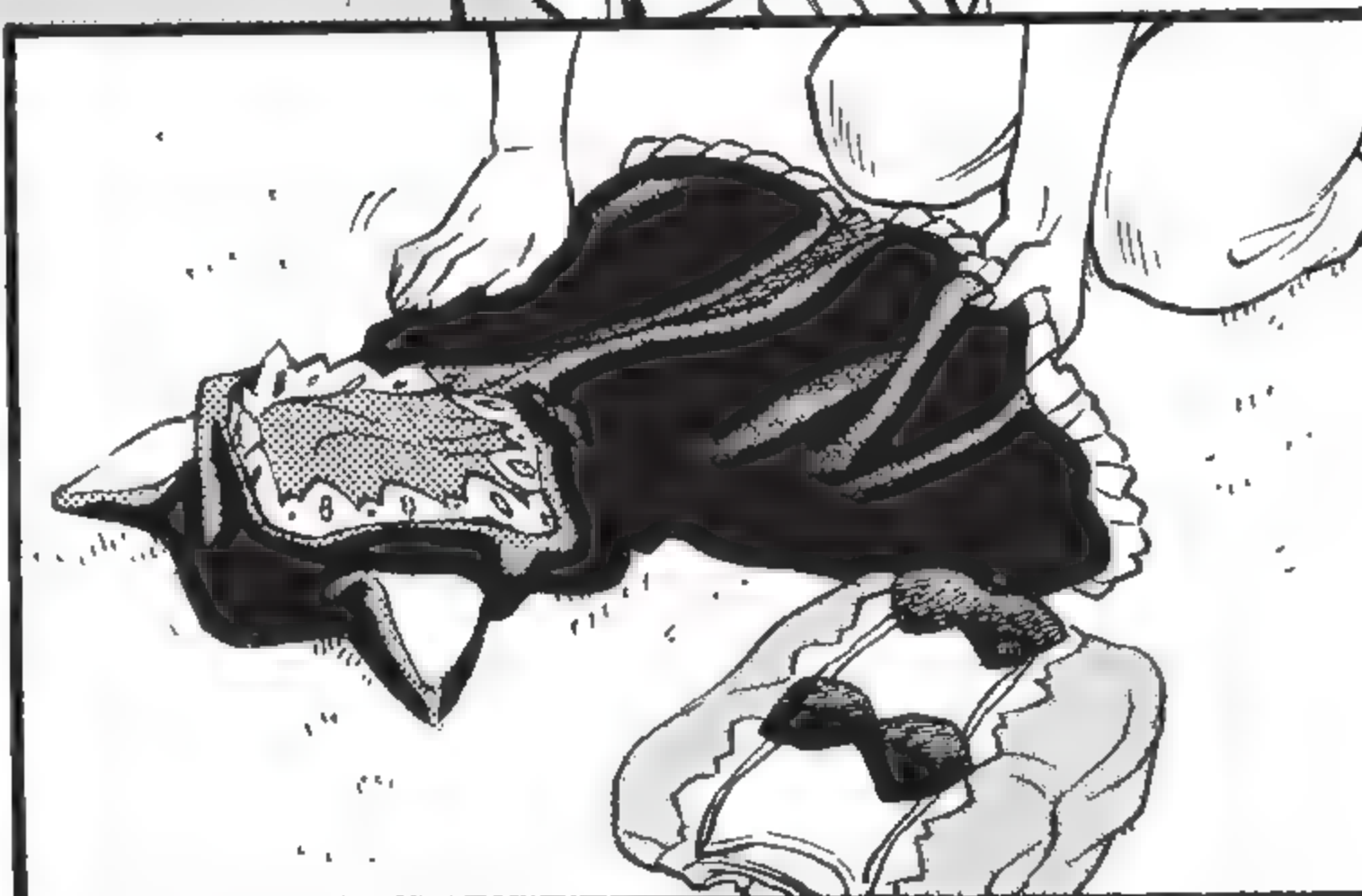
CHIRP チン

...A LOT OF DREAMS.

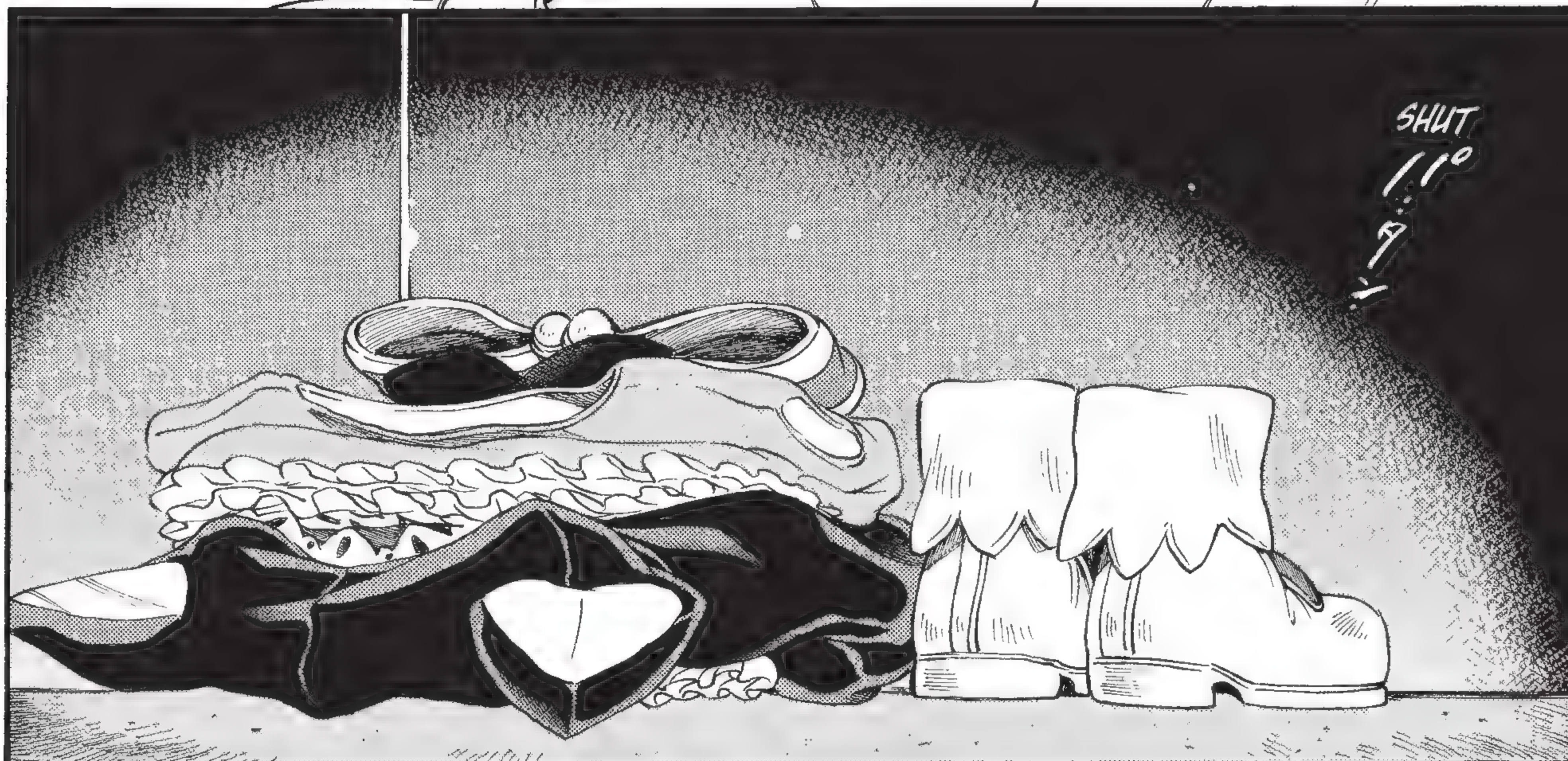
YOU'VE GIVEN ME...



THANK YOU.



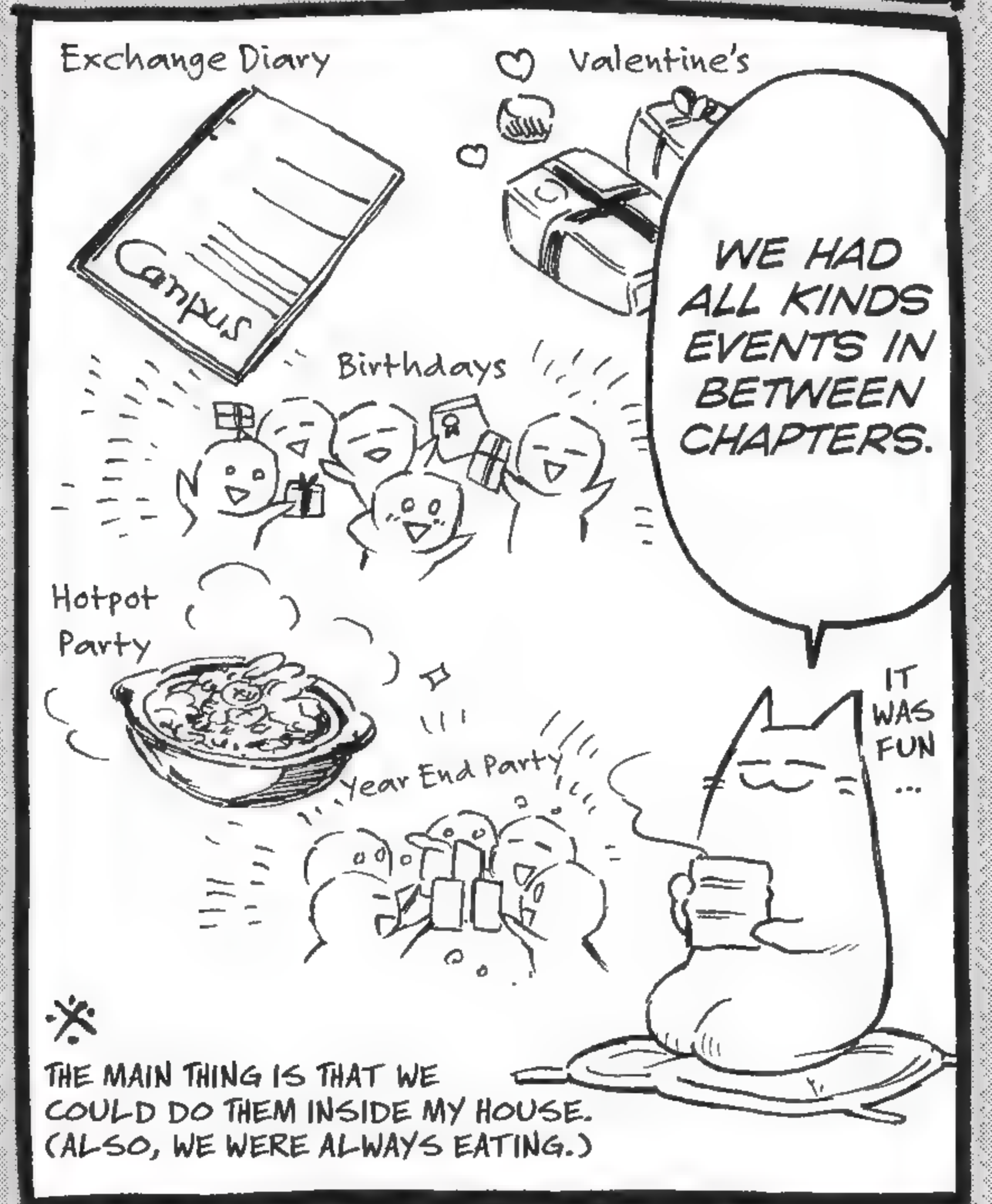
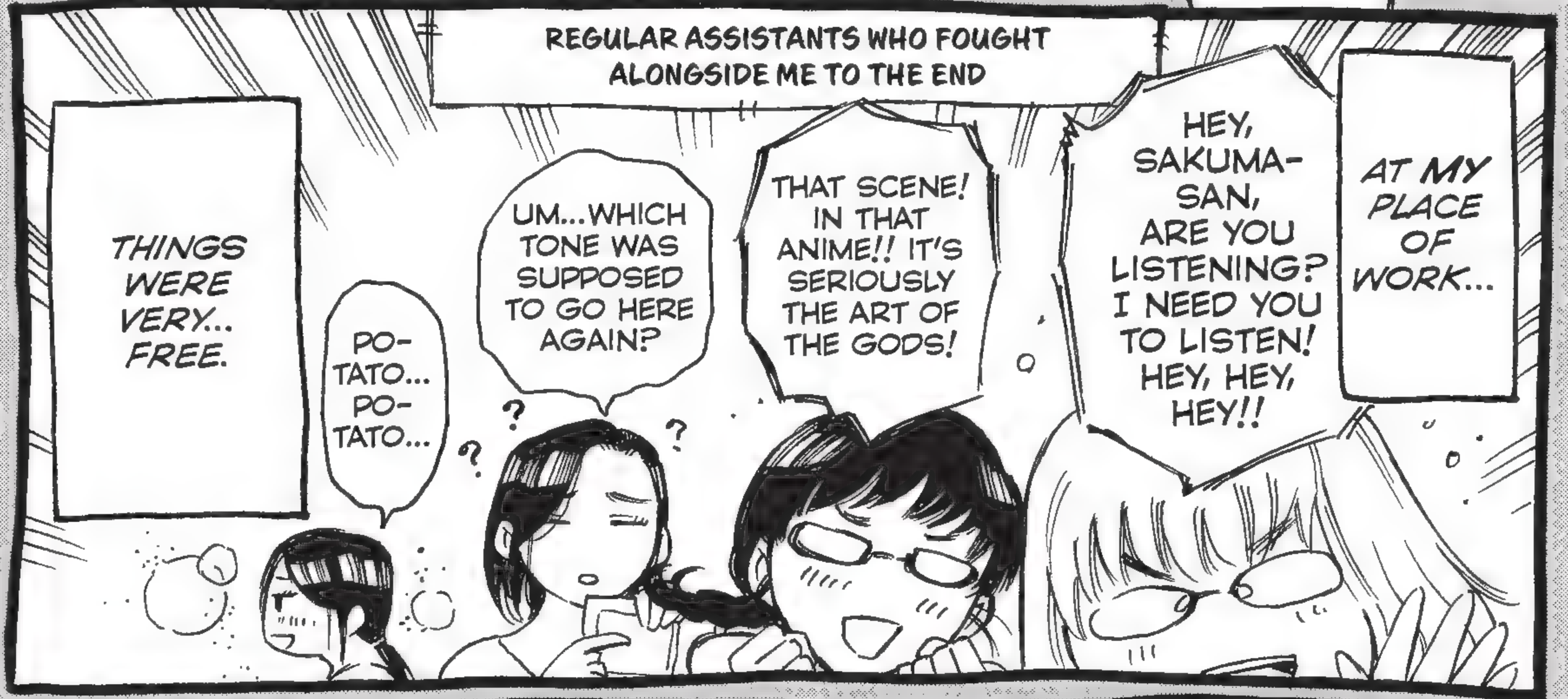
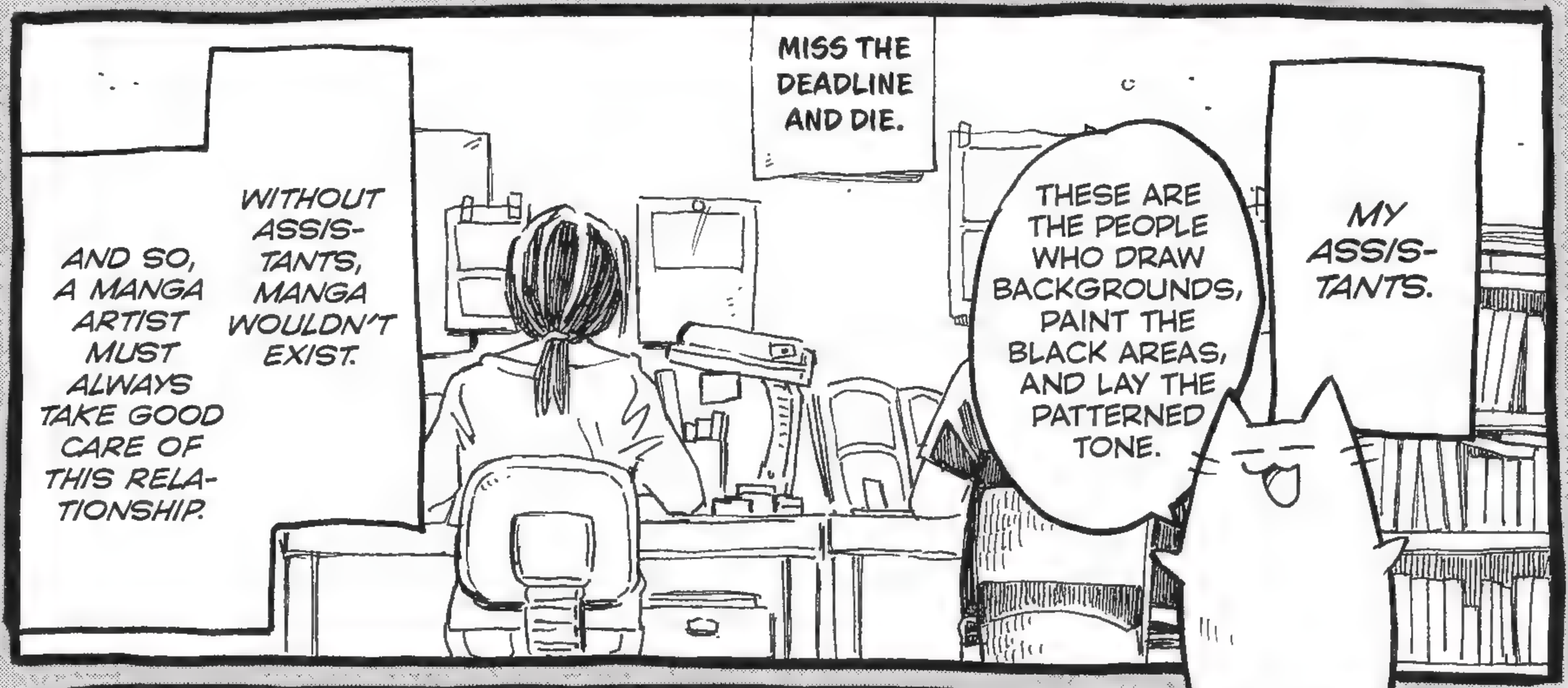
CLATTER

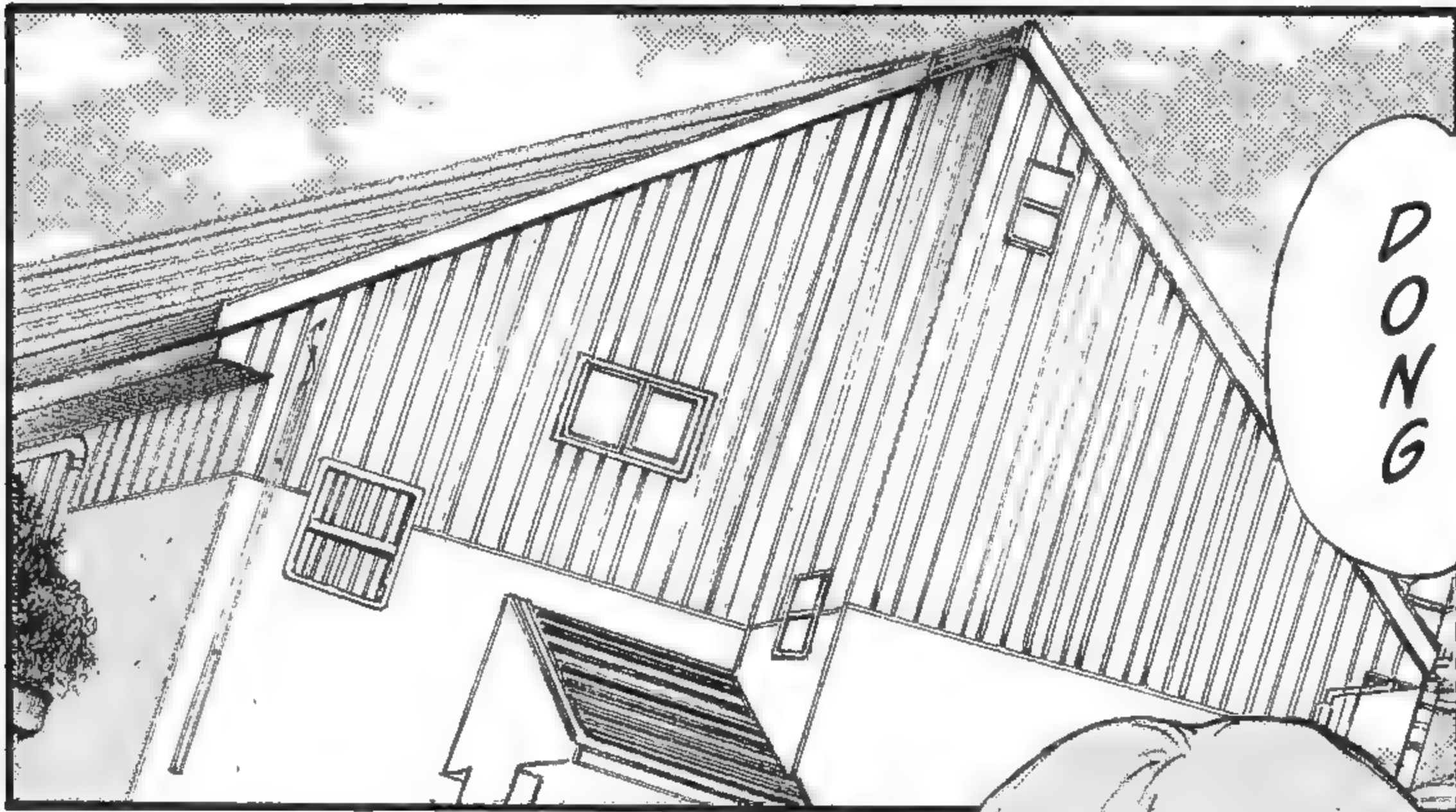


SHUT
11°
9
1

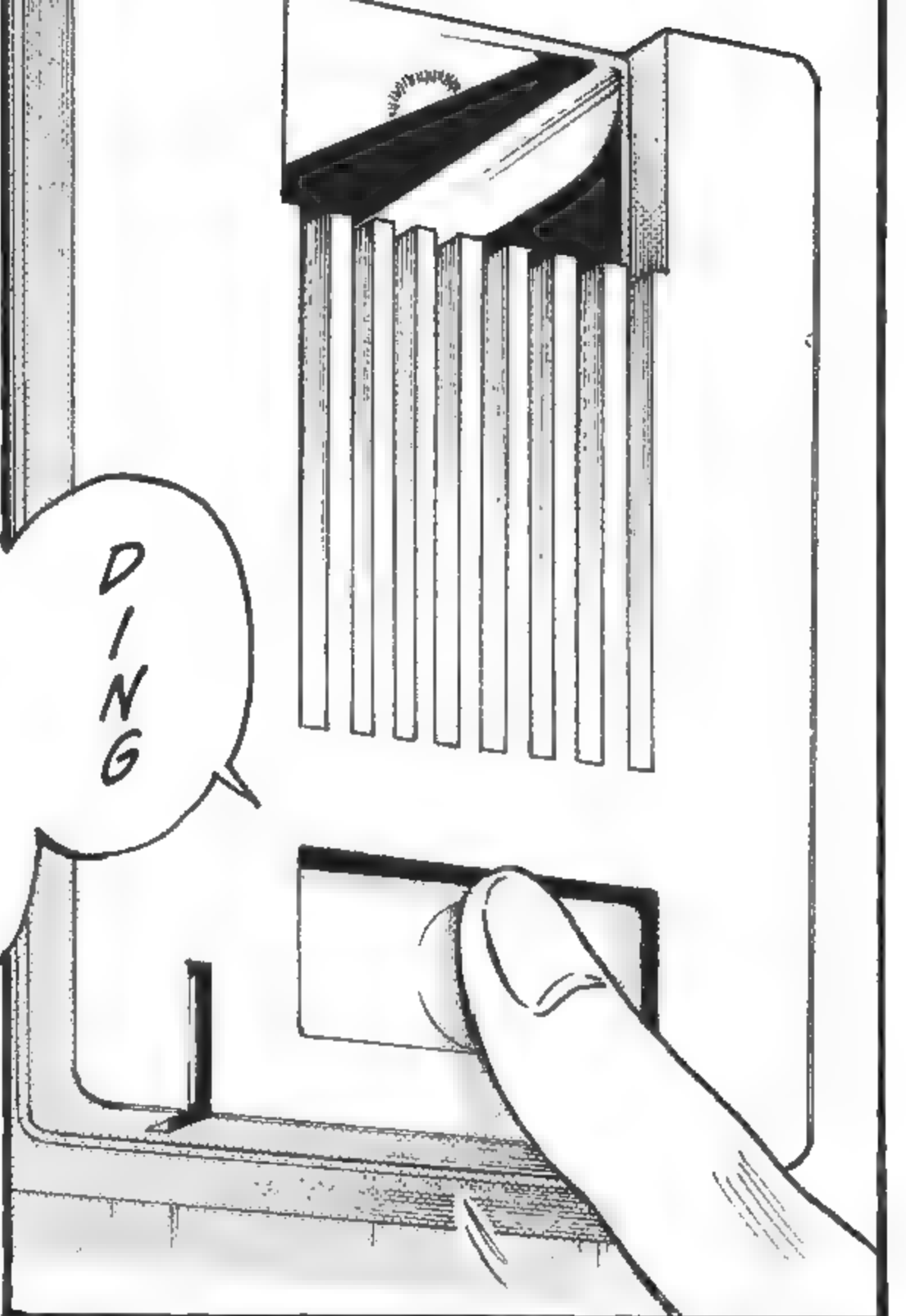


n 47 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n 48





DONG



DING



LONG
TIME NO
SEE!

HI.

n.48
Complex Age



HEH HEH!
I'M DIETING
FOR THE
WEDDING.

HUH? DID
YOU GET
THINNER?



COME
ON IN,
KIMIKO.

PRR



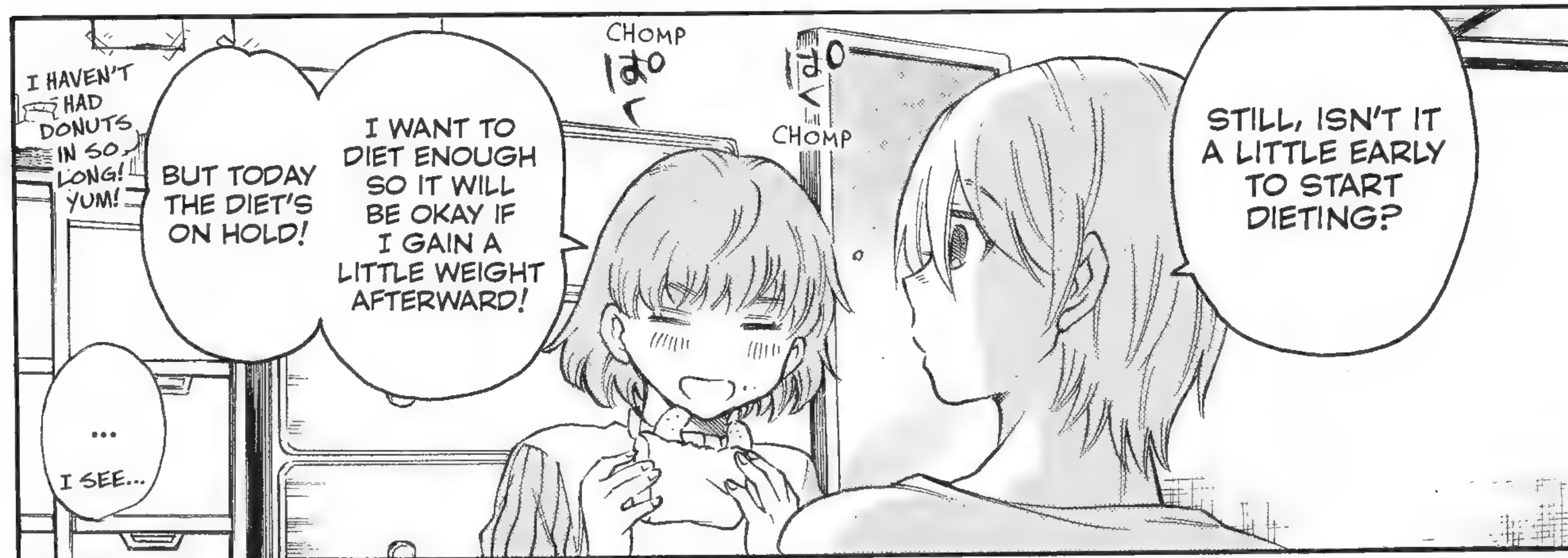
IT'S WARM-
ING UP,
SO THAT
WILL BE
NICE.

REALLY?

I THINK
IT'LL BE
ABOUT
THIS TIME
NEXT
YEAR.



WE
FINALLY
PICKED
A DATE
FOR THE
CEREMONY.



I HAVEN'T
HAD
DONUTS
IN SO
LONG!
YUM!

BUT TODAY
THE DIET'S
ON HOLD!

I WANT TO
DIET ENOUGH
SO IT WILL
BE OKAY IF
I GAIN A
LITTLE WEIGHT
AFTERWARD!

CHOMP

CHOMP

STILL, ISN'T IT
A LITTLE EARLY
TO START
DIETING?

...
I SEE...



SURE, I
CAN DO
THAT.

I'M GOING
TO BE REALLY
BUSY GETTING
READY AND
STUFF, SO I
DON'T THINK
I'LL BE ABLE TO
SEE EVERYONE
FOR A WHILE.
WILL YOU TELL
THEM I SAID
HELLO?



SUCH A
HASTY
COUPLE.

FOR
C-C-C-
COM-
ING...

TH-TH-TH-
TH-THANK
YOU
ALL...

SPEAKING
OF EARLY,
HARUTA-
KUN'S
ALREADY
PRACTICING
HIS SPEECH
FOR THE
WEDDING.

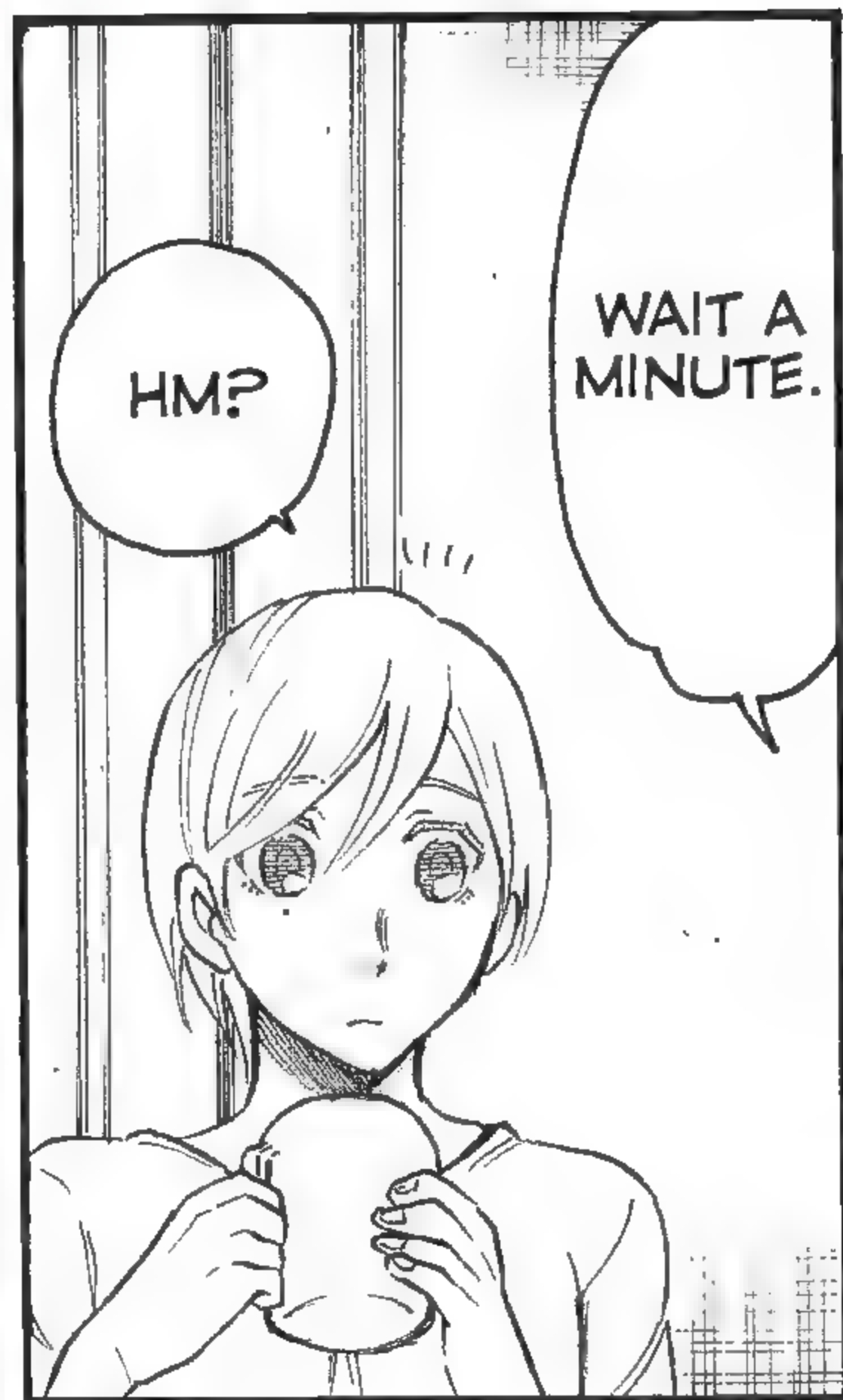
STIFF

STIFF



YOU
USED
TO HAVE
IT ON
DISPLAY,
RIGHT?

DID
YOU
PUT
YOUR
URURU
COS-
TUME
AWAY?



HM?

WAIT A
MINUTE.



WHAT
...?



I'VE
GRADU-
ATED
FROM
THAT
COSPLAY.

YEAH
...
ABOUT
URURU.



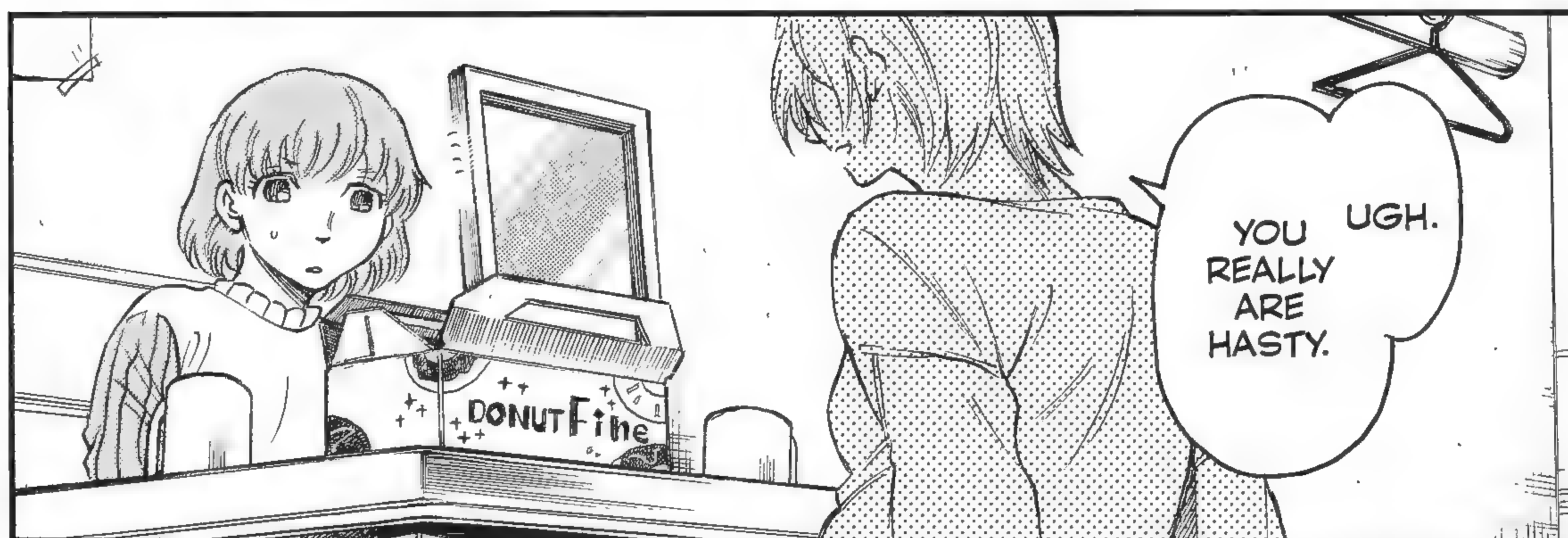
NOT
YOU,
TOO.

DON'T
TELL
ME.



H
M
M.
M.

WHY?





...I'M
LOOKING
FOR A NEW
SHAPE FOR
MY HOBBY.



Ha
ha
ha.

AND I
THINK I'VE
ALMOST
GOT IT.

I'M LOOKING
FOR MY OWN
WAY TO KEEP
CONFRONTING
COSPLAY. I
NEED MY OWN
ANSWER.

SHAPE
...?

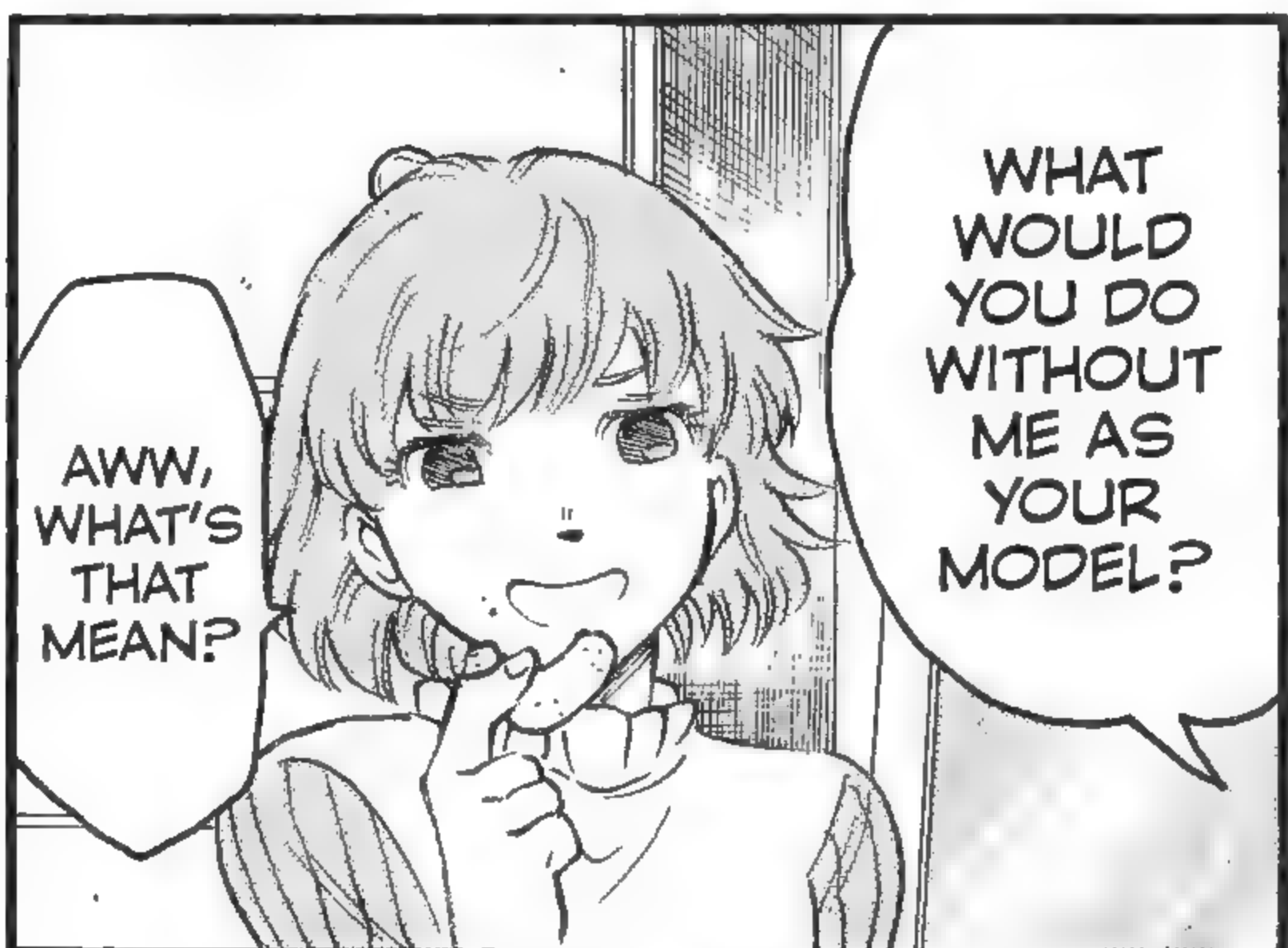


THAT'S
GOOD
TO
HEAR.

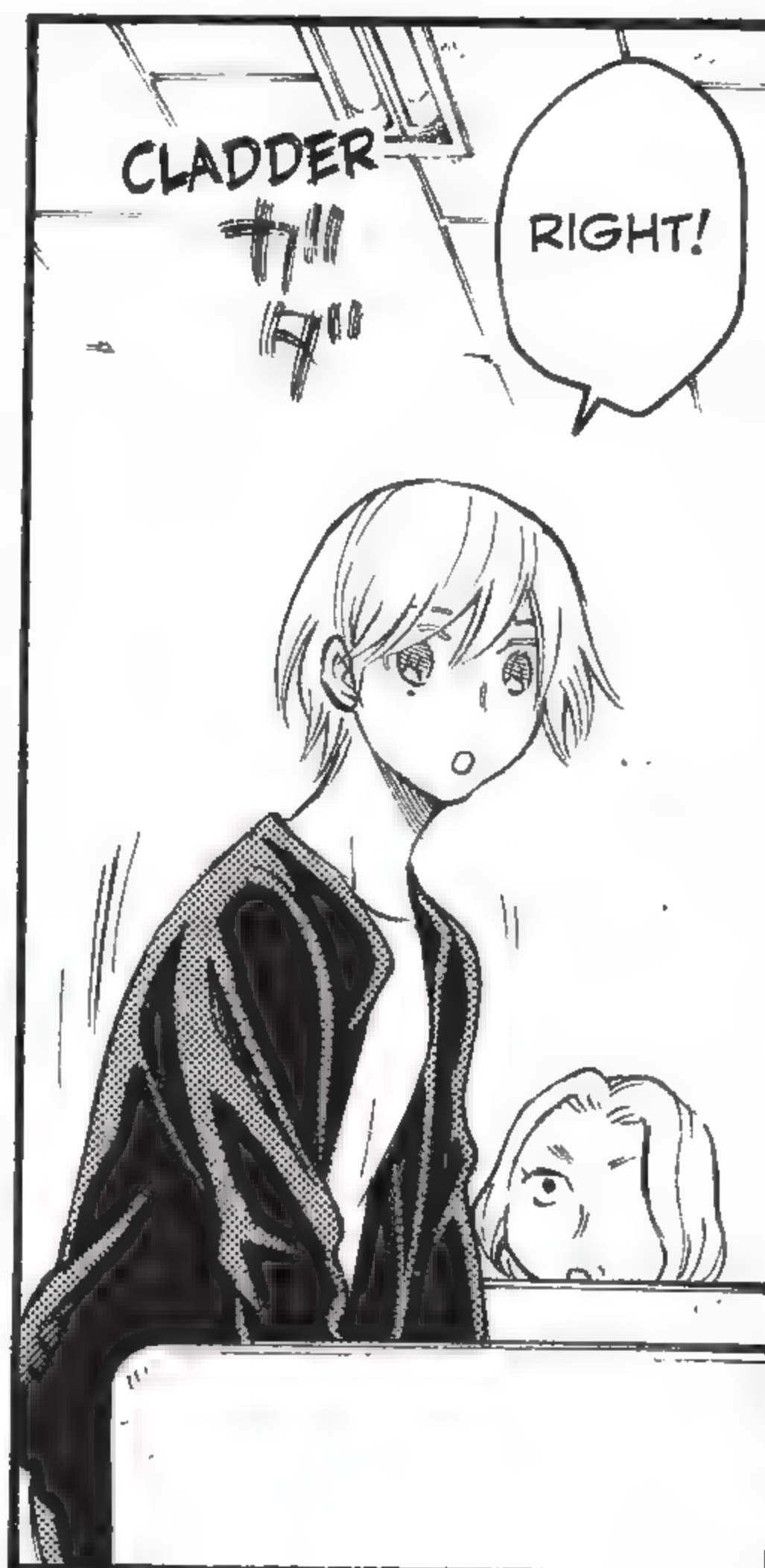
OH...
OKAY.

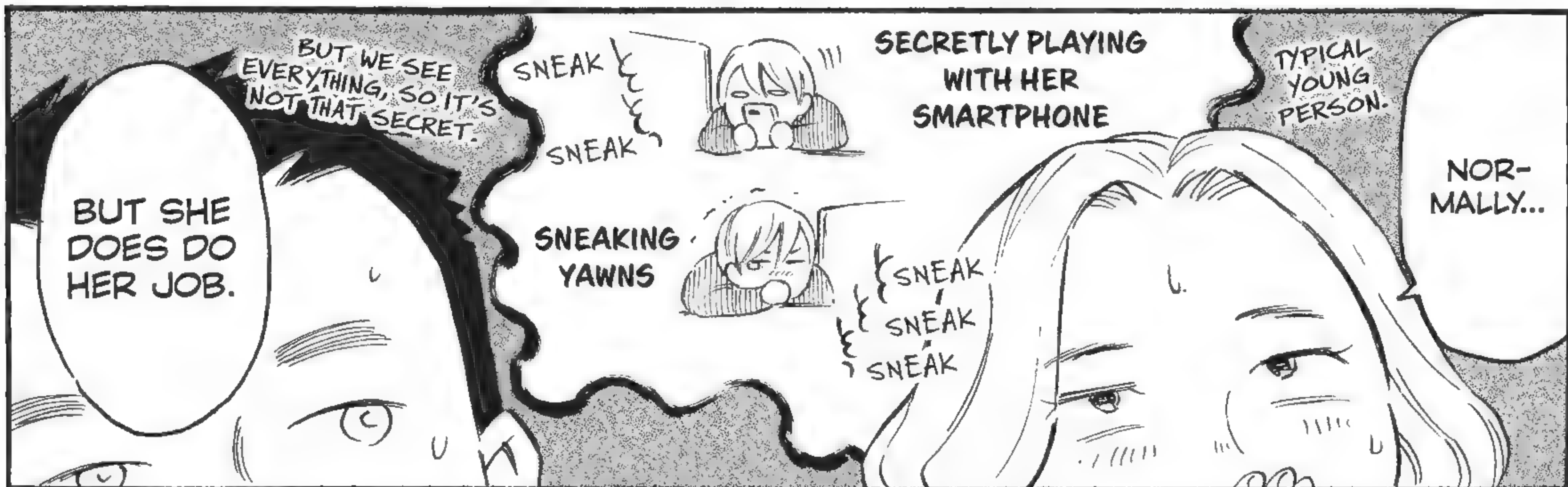


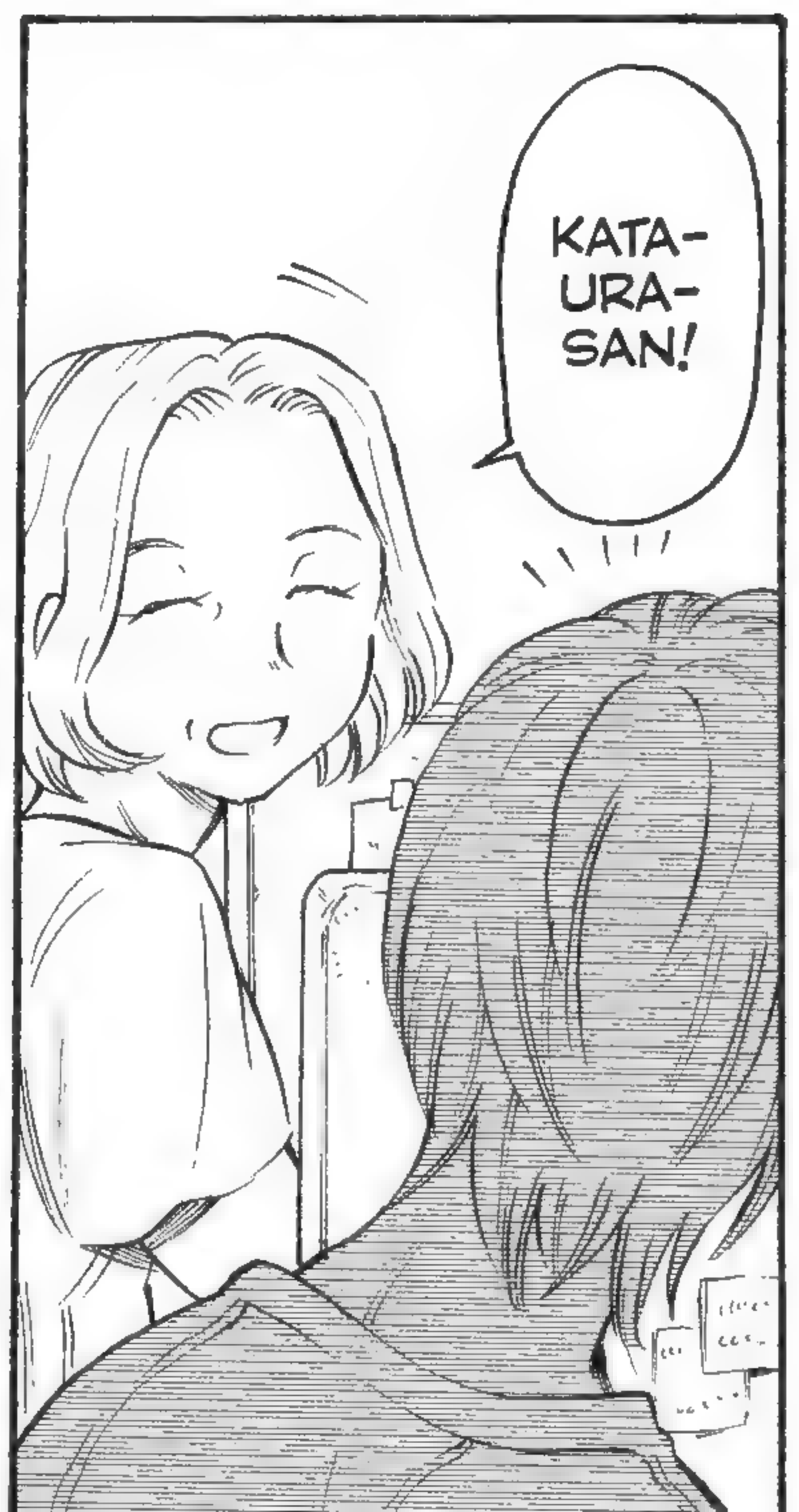
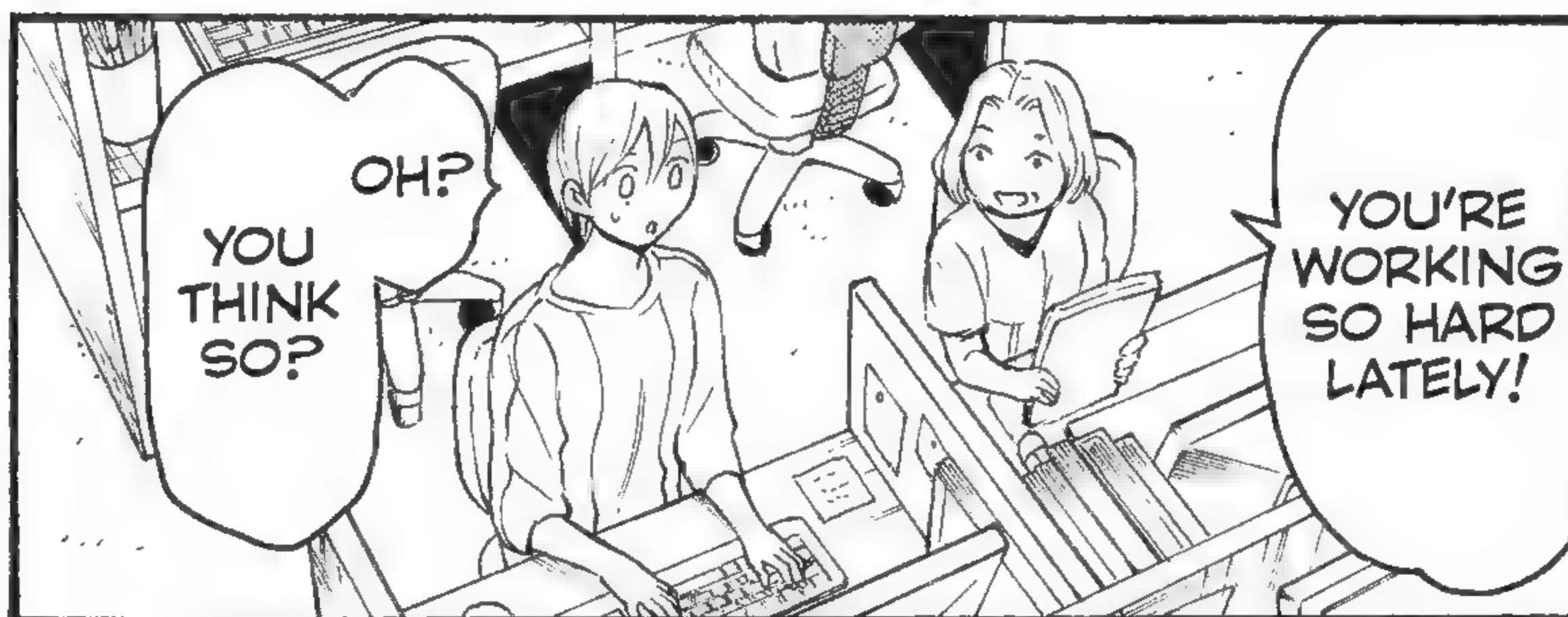
SO
YOU CAN
RELAX.

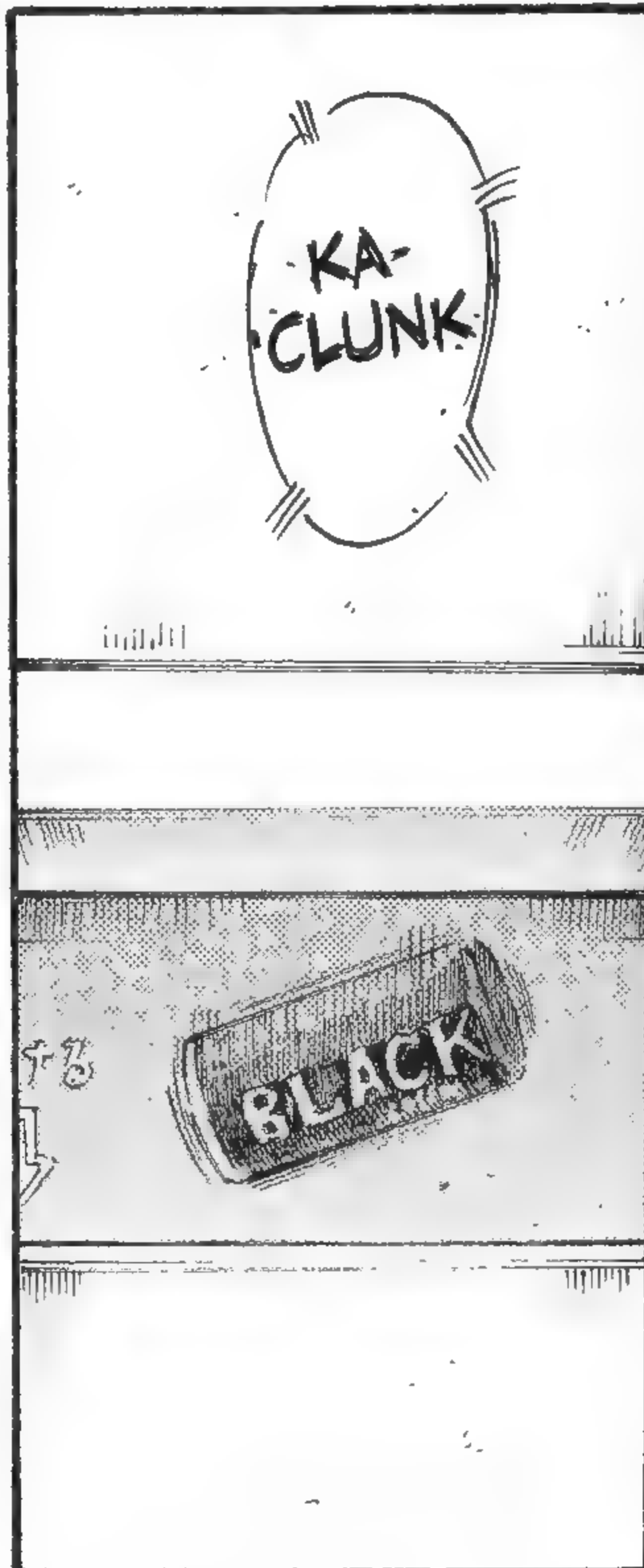
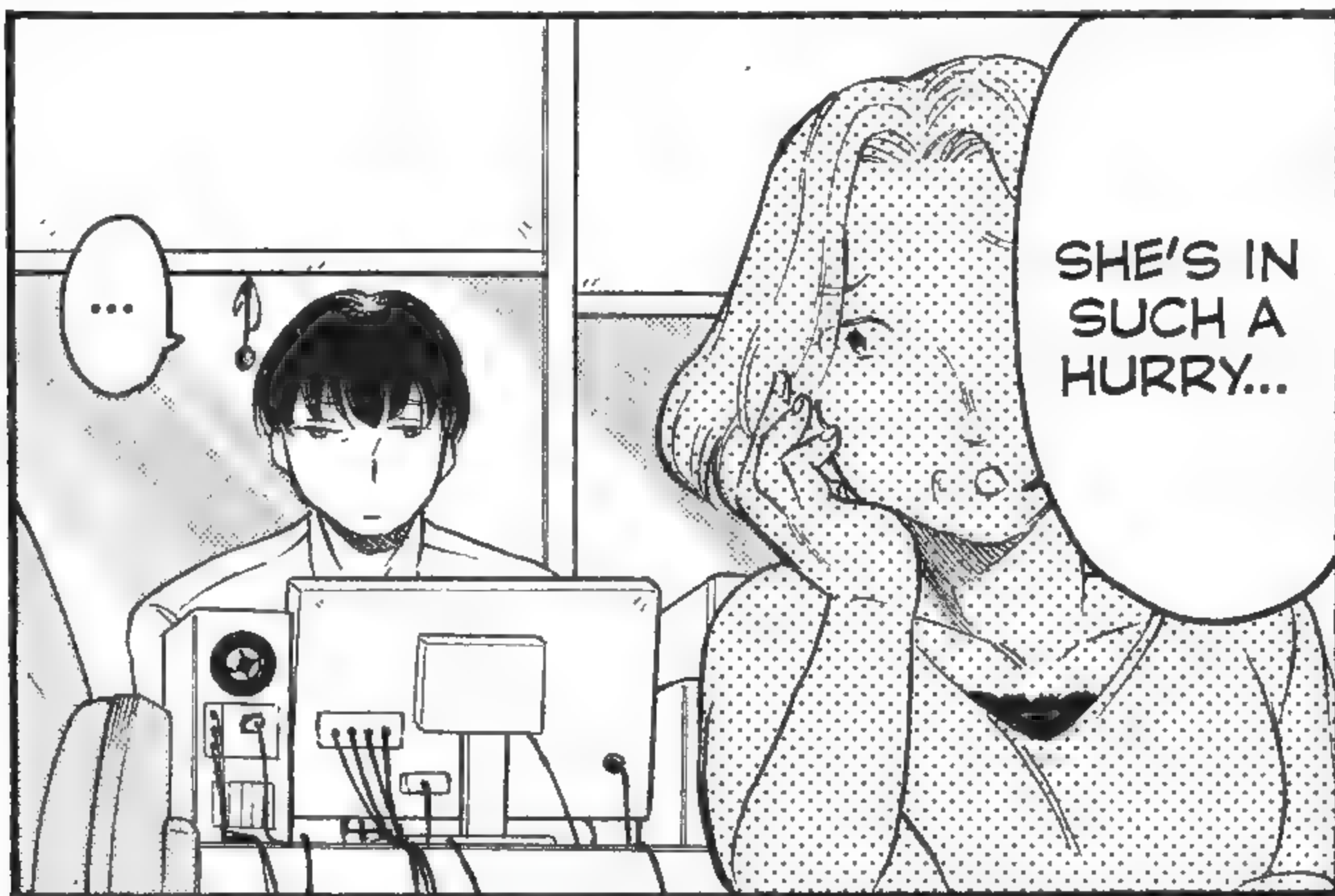
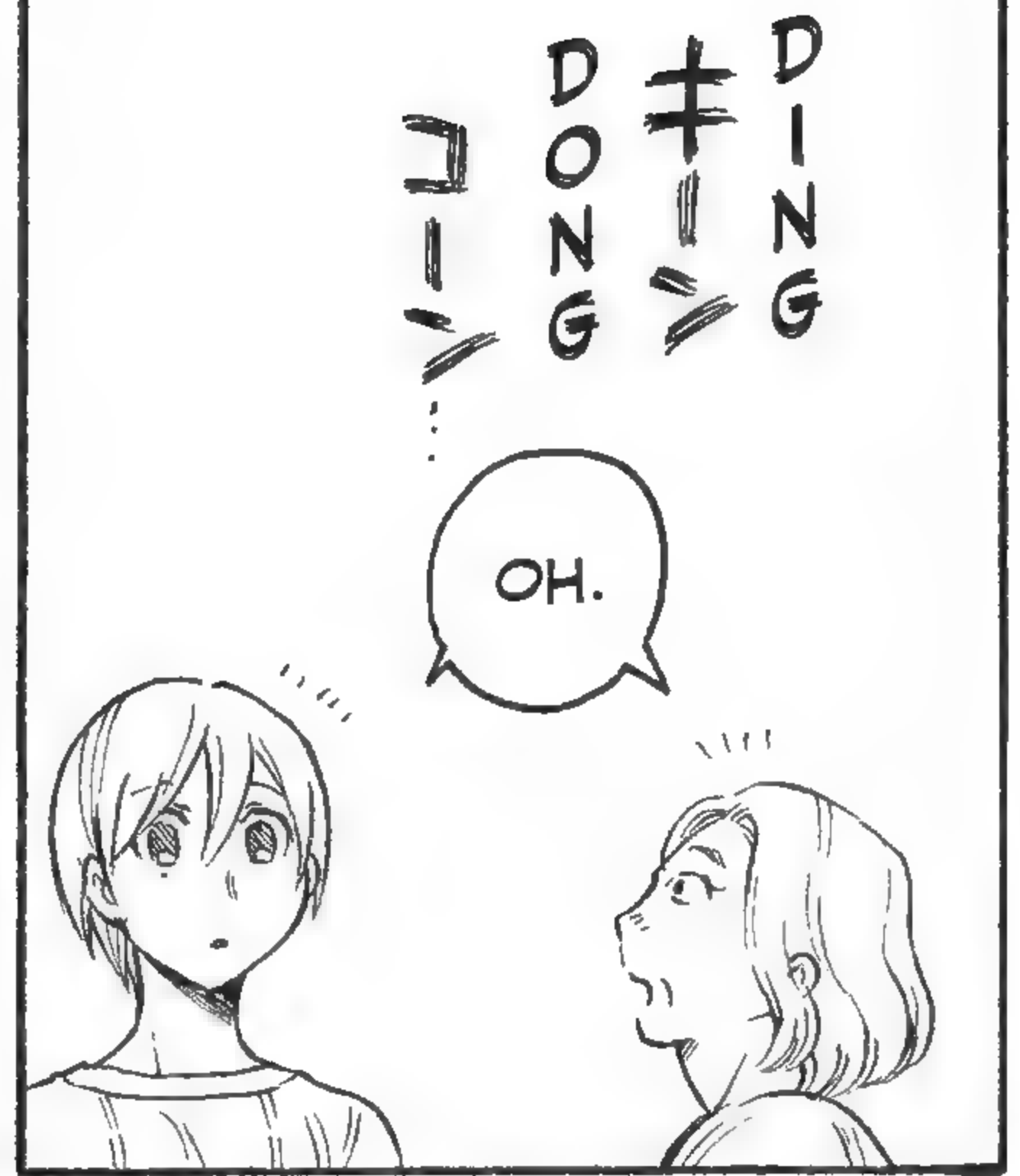
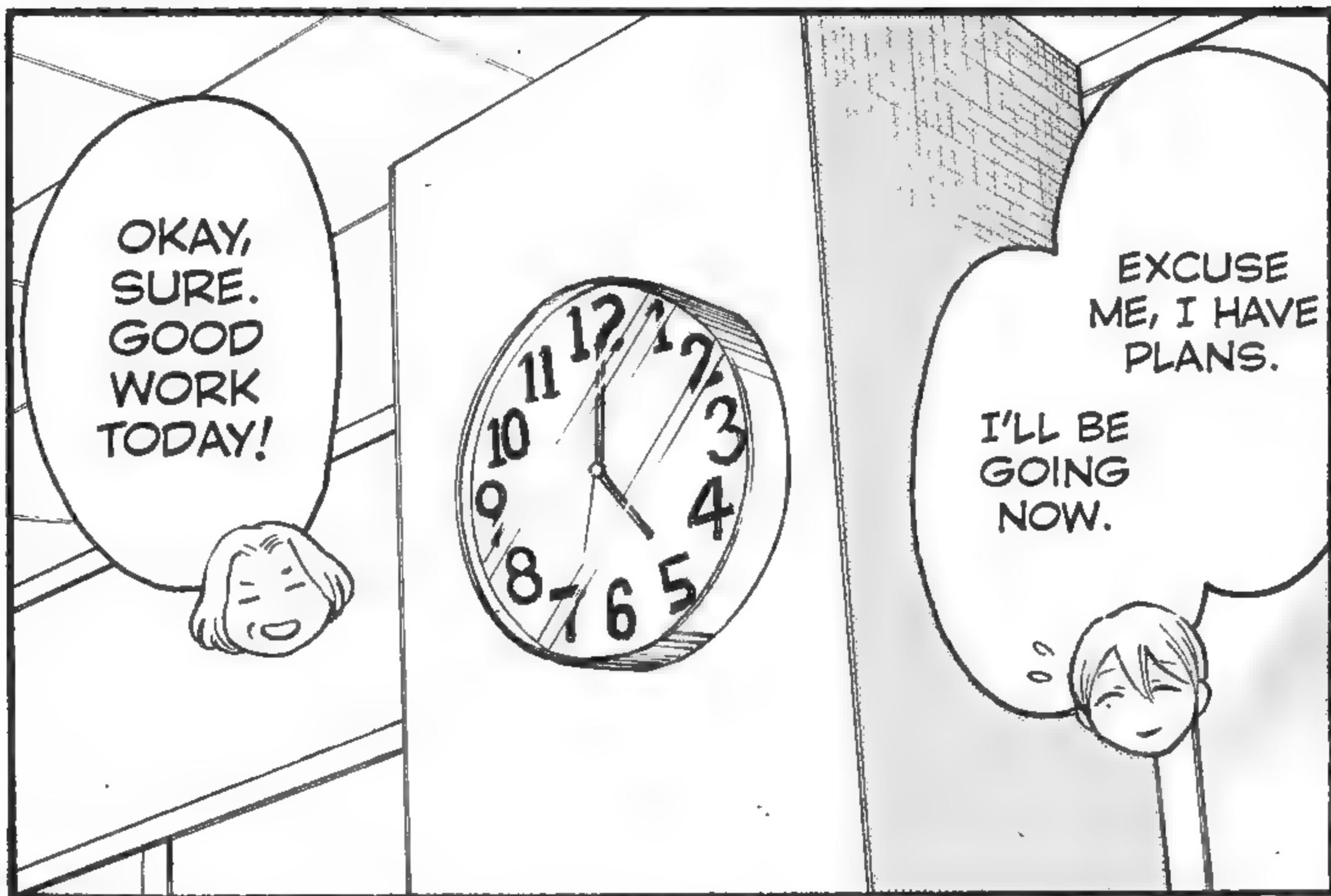


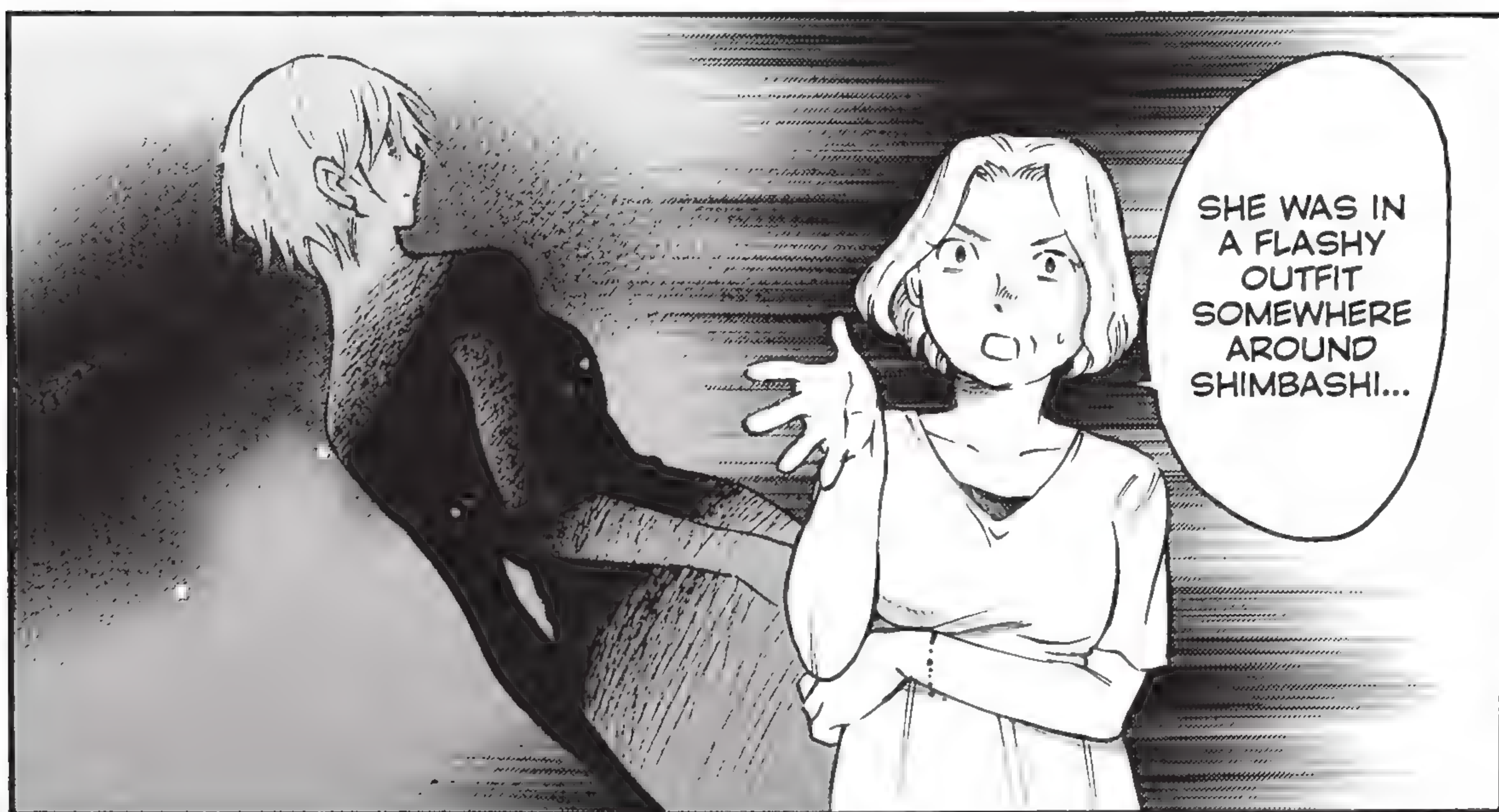
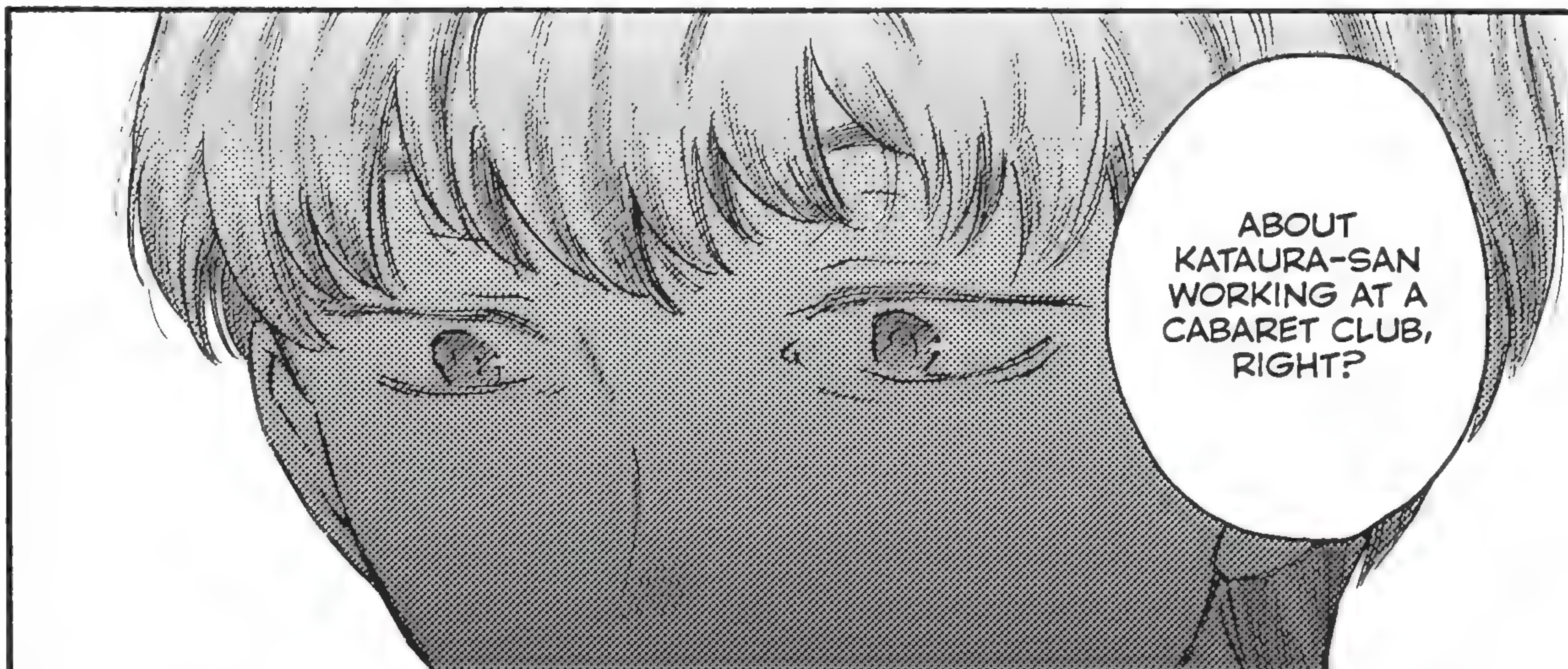
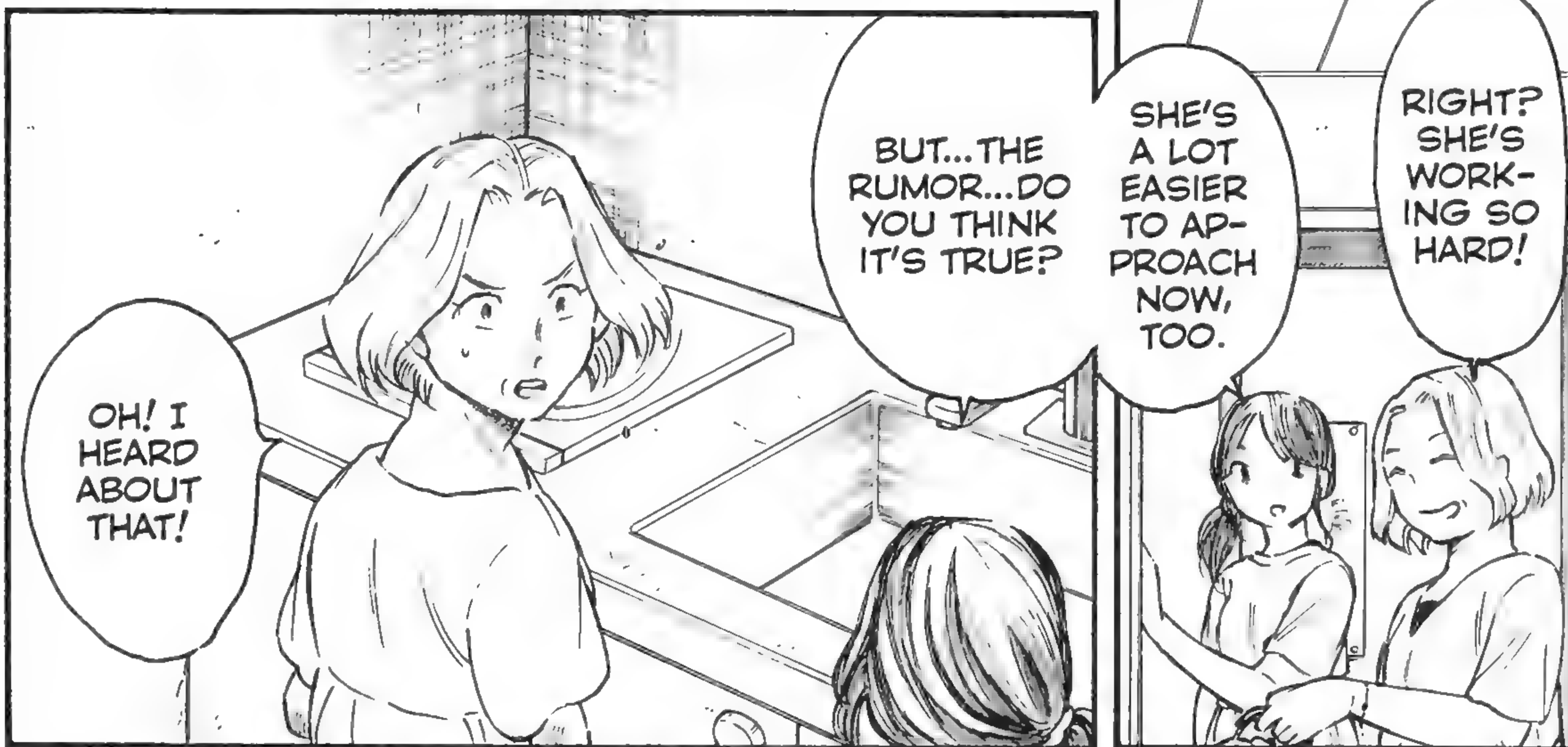


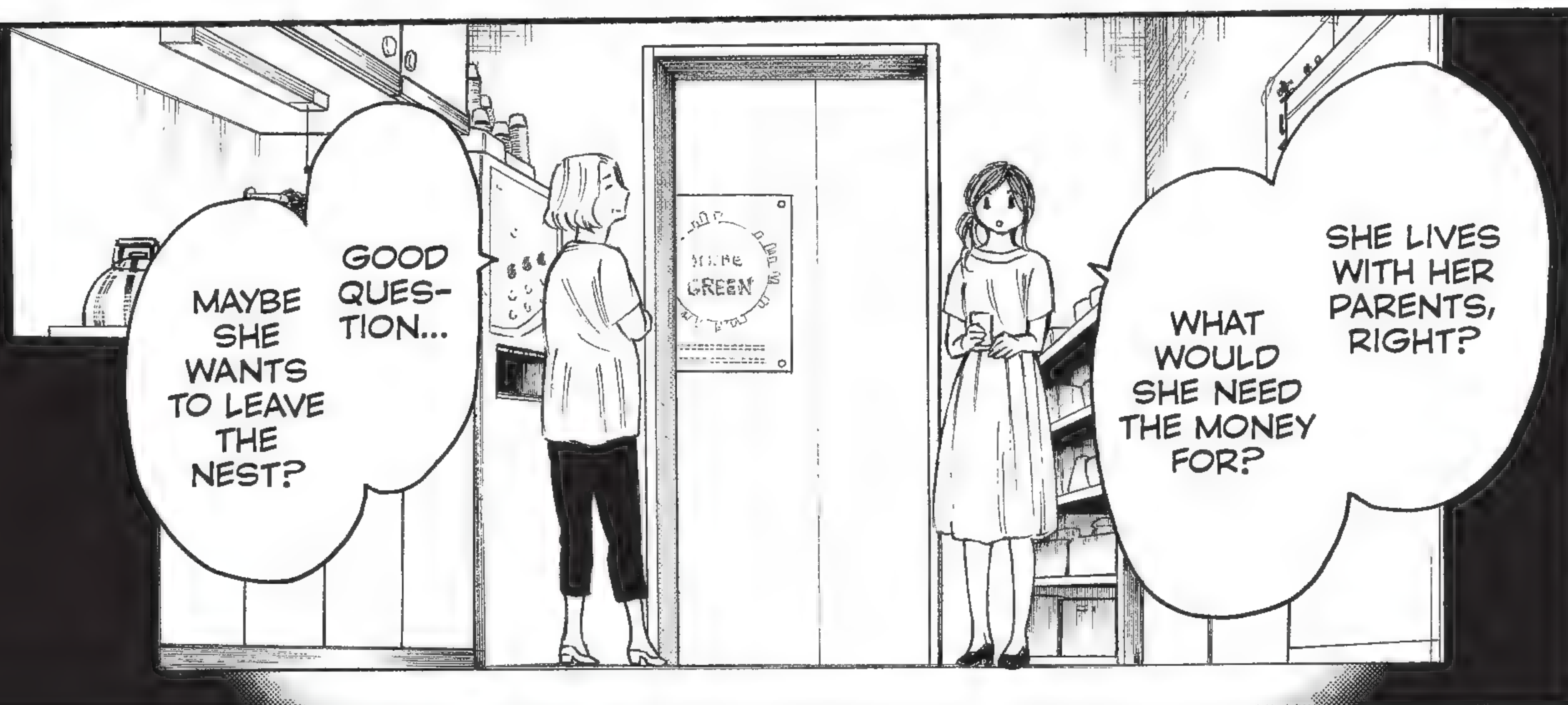
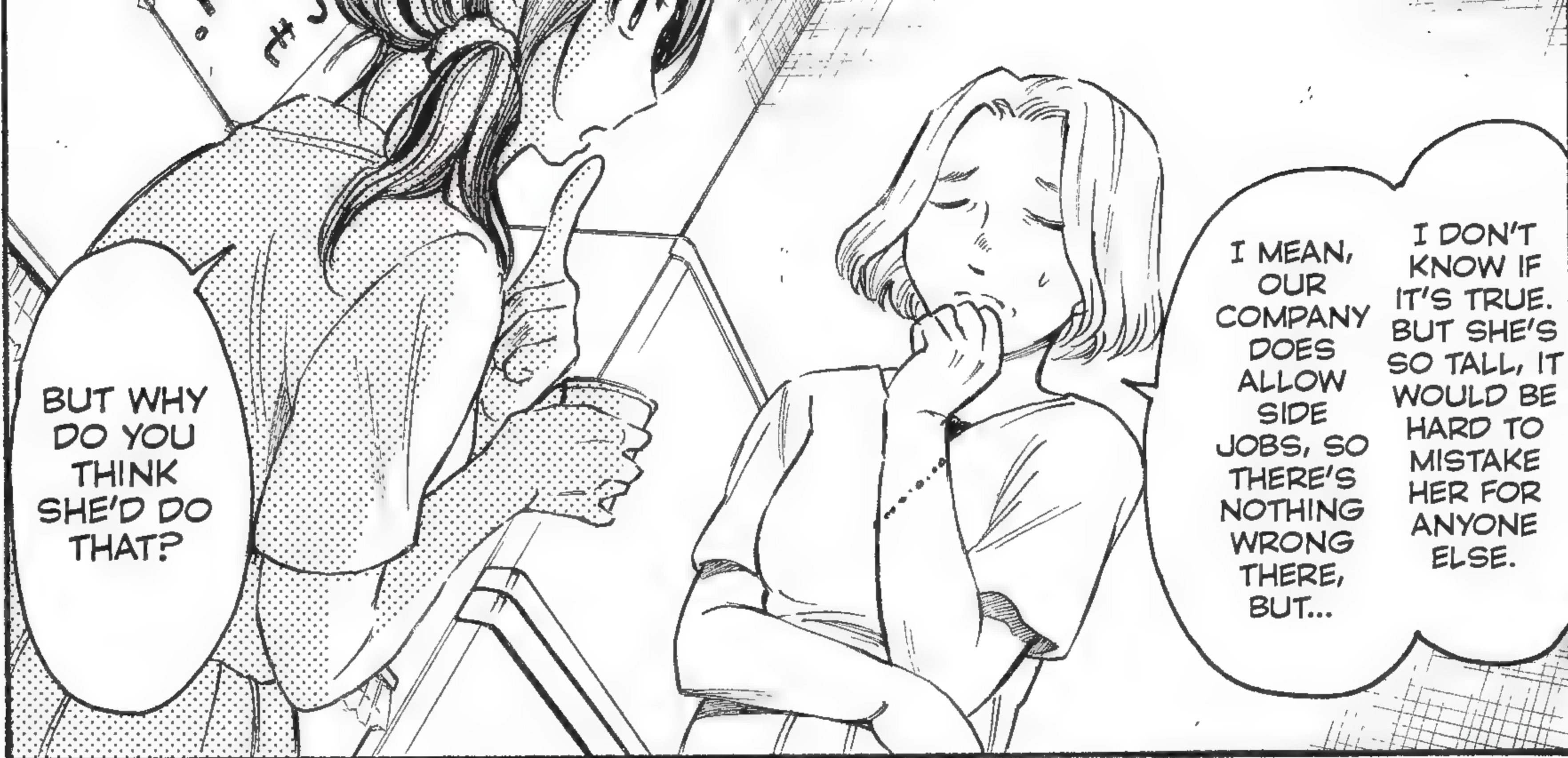




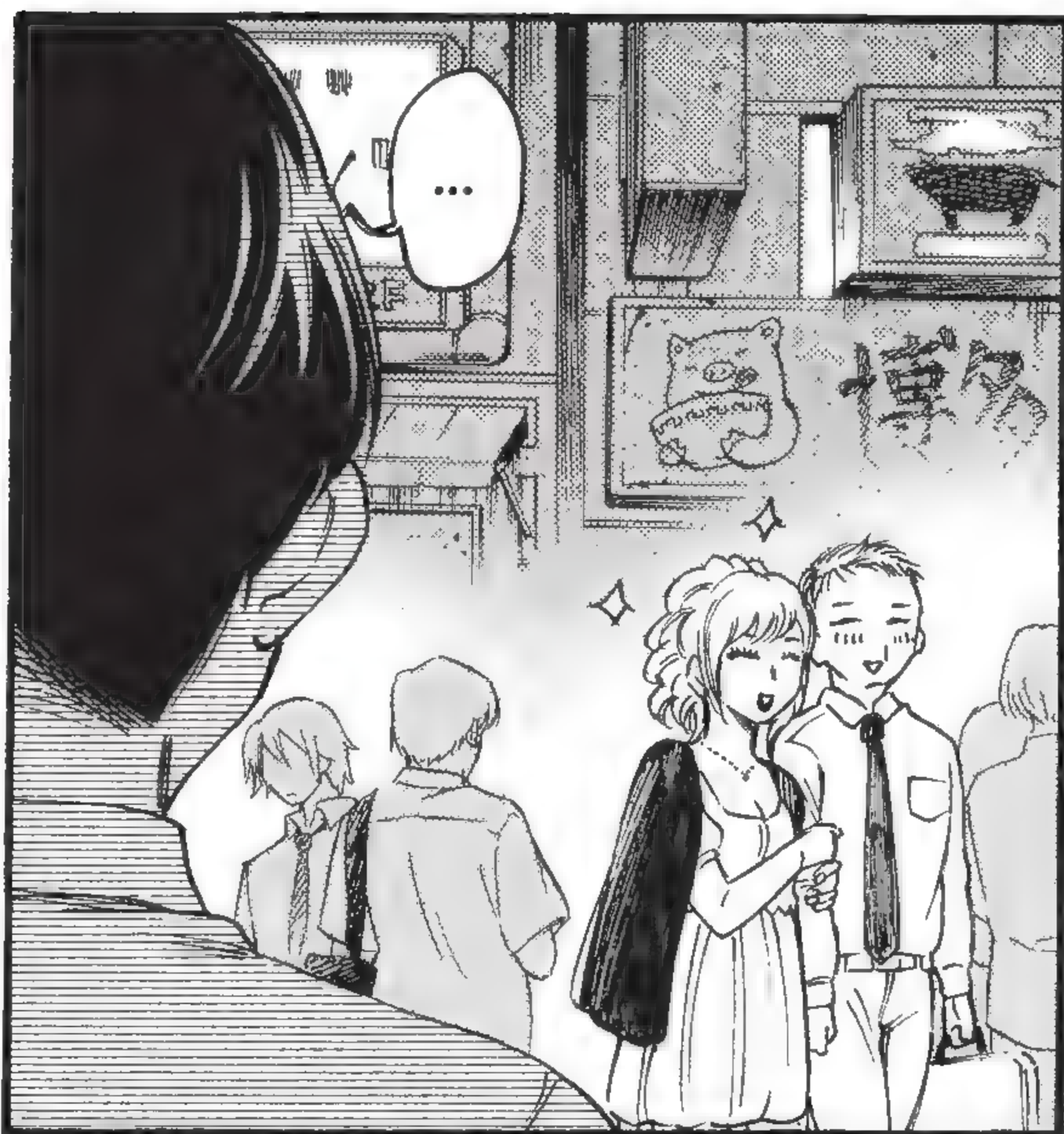














I'LL
TAKE
ONE
MORE
LAP
AROUND
AND
THEN
GO
HOME.

I'M NOT
FAMILIAR
WITH THIS
AREA.

UNLIKE
AKIHABARA.



NOT SUR-
PRISINGLY,
FINDING
HER IS GO-
ING TO BE
ALMOST IM-
POSSIBLE.



I'MMM
FIINE.

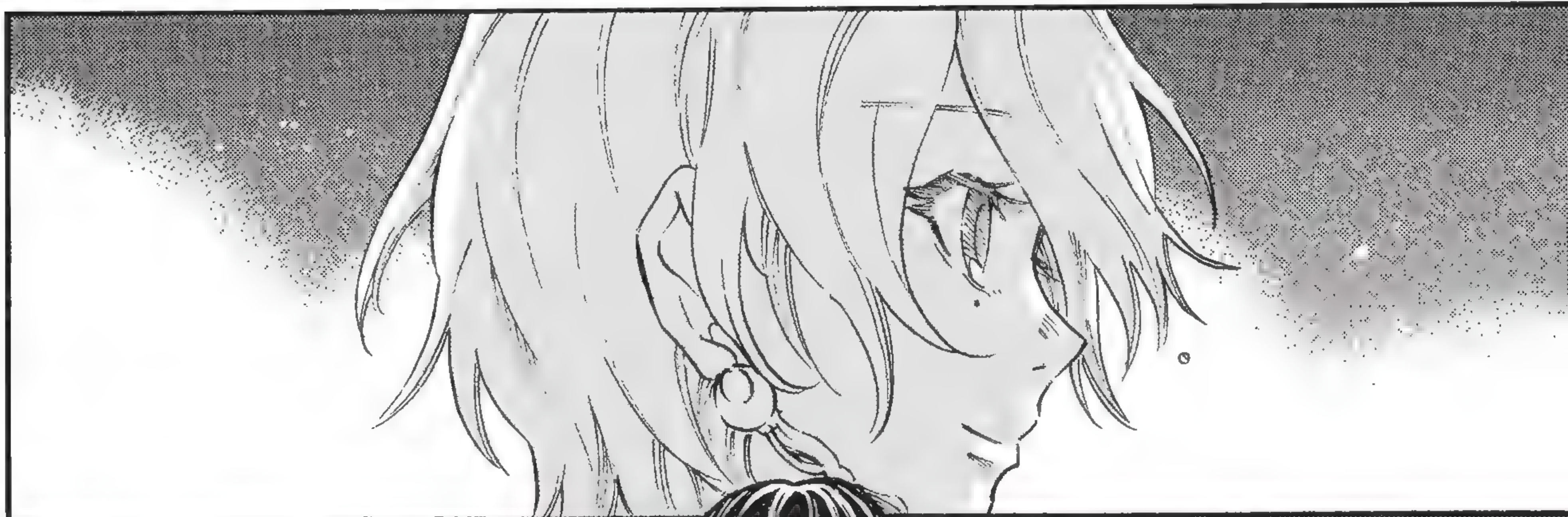
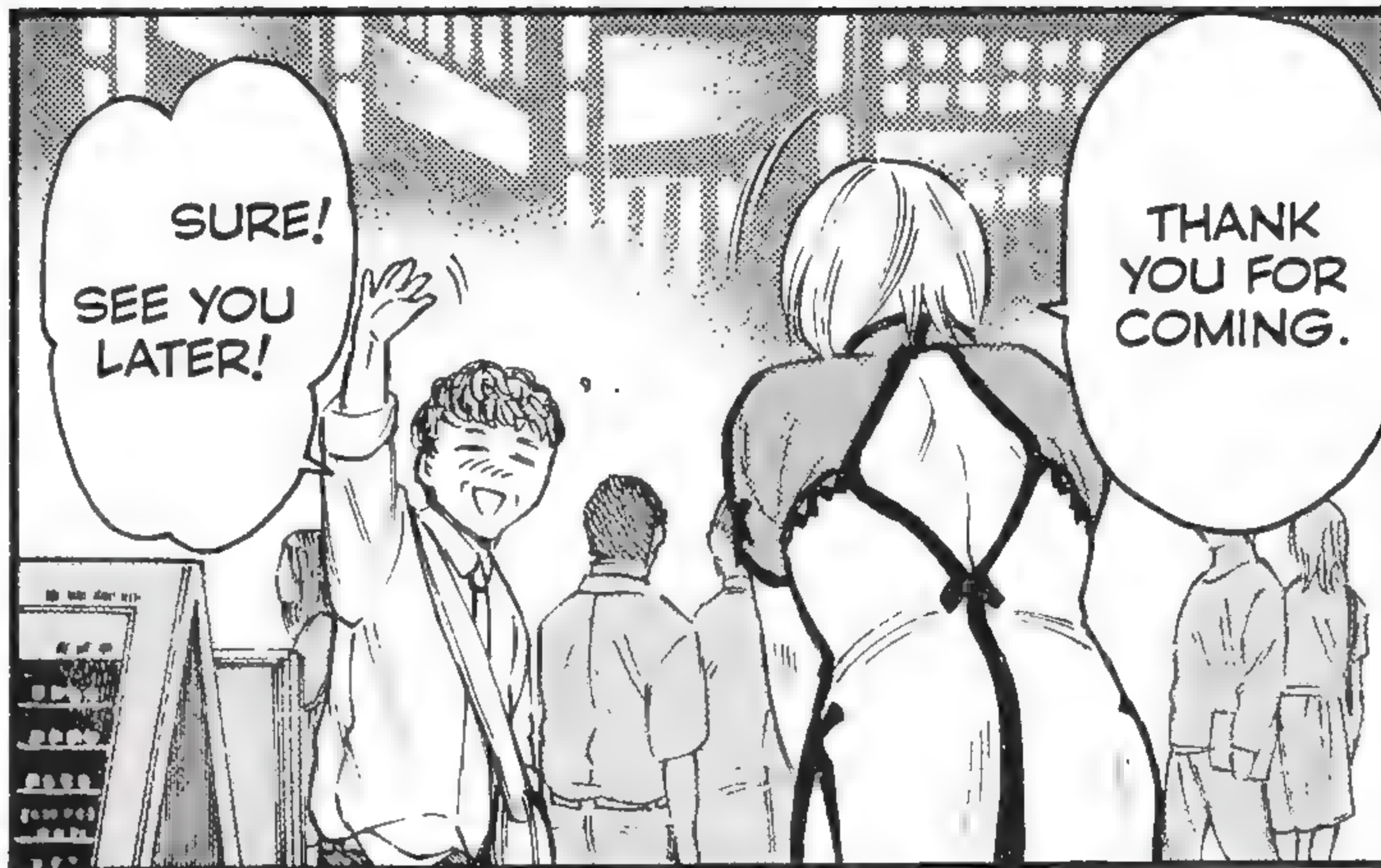
ARE...ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?



YERRR
SO BIG.



I CAN
JUST LEAN
ON YOU!





n.48 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n.49

I'LL
ERASE
IT!

AAAAAGGH,
I CAN'T TAKE
IT!! I QUIT!!!

NEVERTHE-
LESS, SOME-
TIMES HAVING
A DEADLINE
EVERY WEEK
DRIVES ME
MAD.

BAM

BAM

SNIFF...

STAND

SNIFFLE

SNIFFLE...

DAMMIT... EVERYONE
LOOKS AT ME LIKE
THEY'RE LOOKING AT
TRASH THAT EVEN
TRASH THINKS OF AS
TRASH...* I'LL END
IT ALL, AND MY LIFE
ALONG WITH IT...

***MOST-
LY
JUST A
PERSE-
CUTION
COM-
PLEX**

SNIFFLE

SNIFFLE

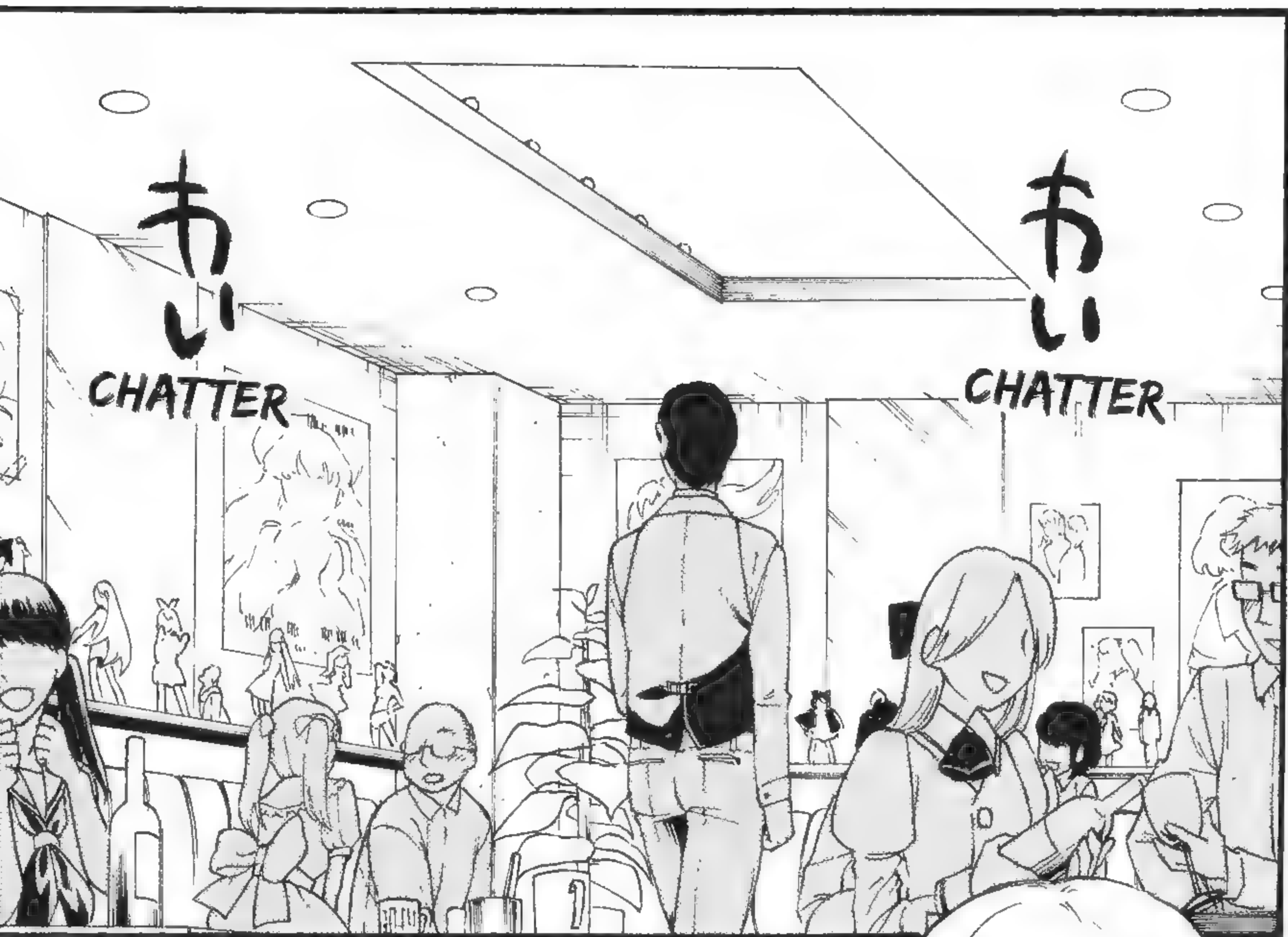
SMIFFLE

WELL,
BACK TO
WORK!

**SOME-
TIMES
THAT'S
JUST
PART
OF THE
MANGA
PROCESS.**

ES
SH
ED

CREAK



Sign: Cosplay Cabaret Club♡NyaCos



SO, HAVE YOU, LIKE, CO-PLAYED IT?

YES, I DO.

WHAT'S THAT, YUMA-SAN?! YOU LIKE MAGI-RURU?



R...

NO! I DON'T SEE IT!

I COS-PLAYED... URURU.



GOT ANY PICTURES?

I KNOW! YOU WERE LILY, RIGHT? YOU'D MAKE A GREAT LILY!

YES, I...

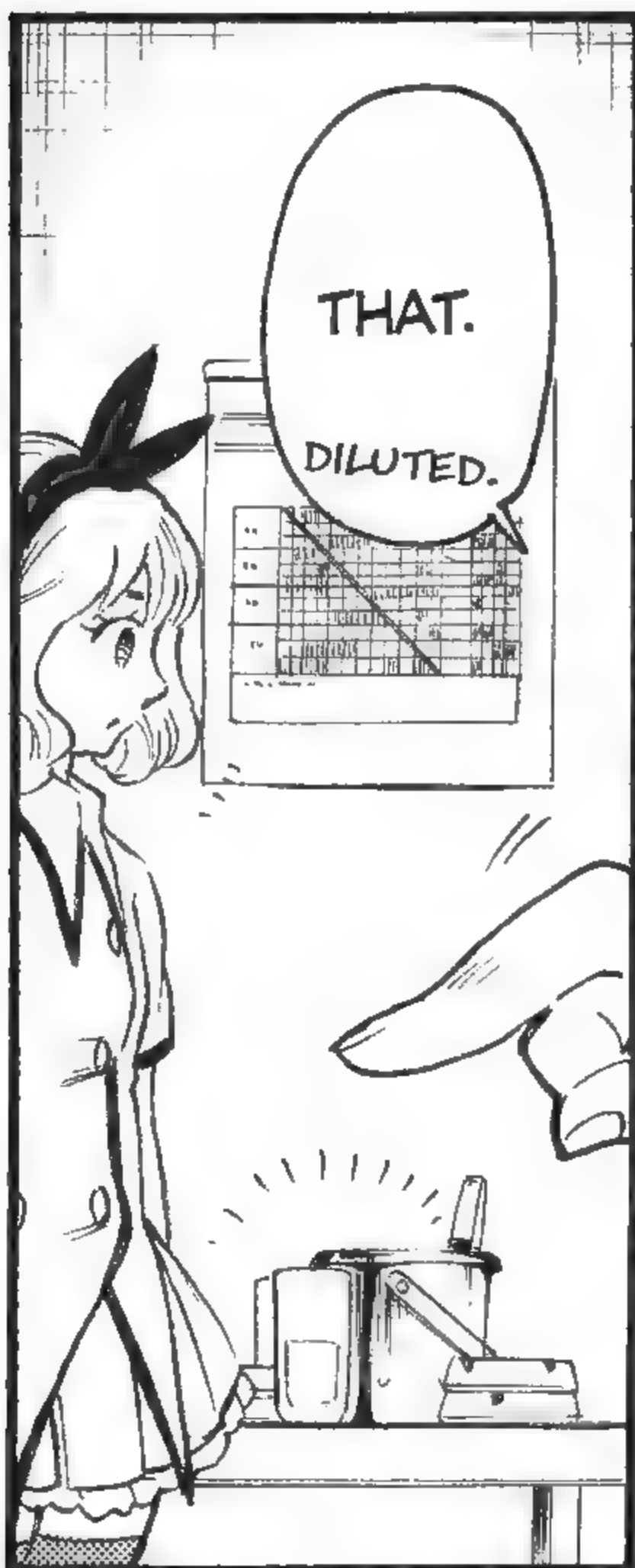
ACTUALLY...

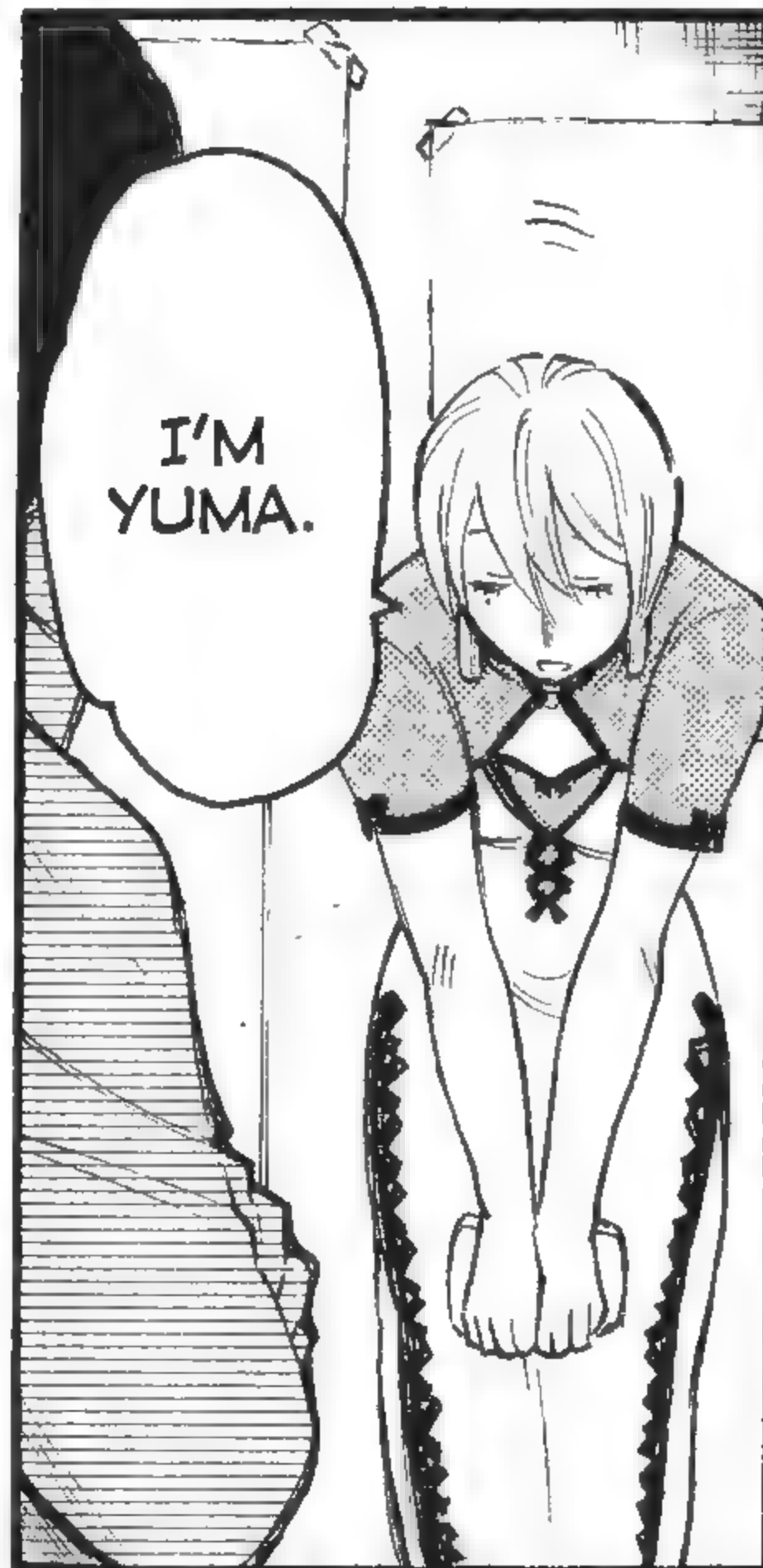
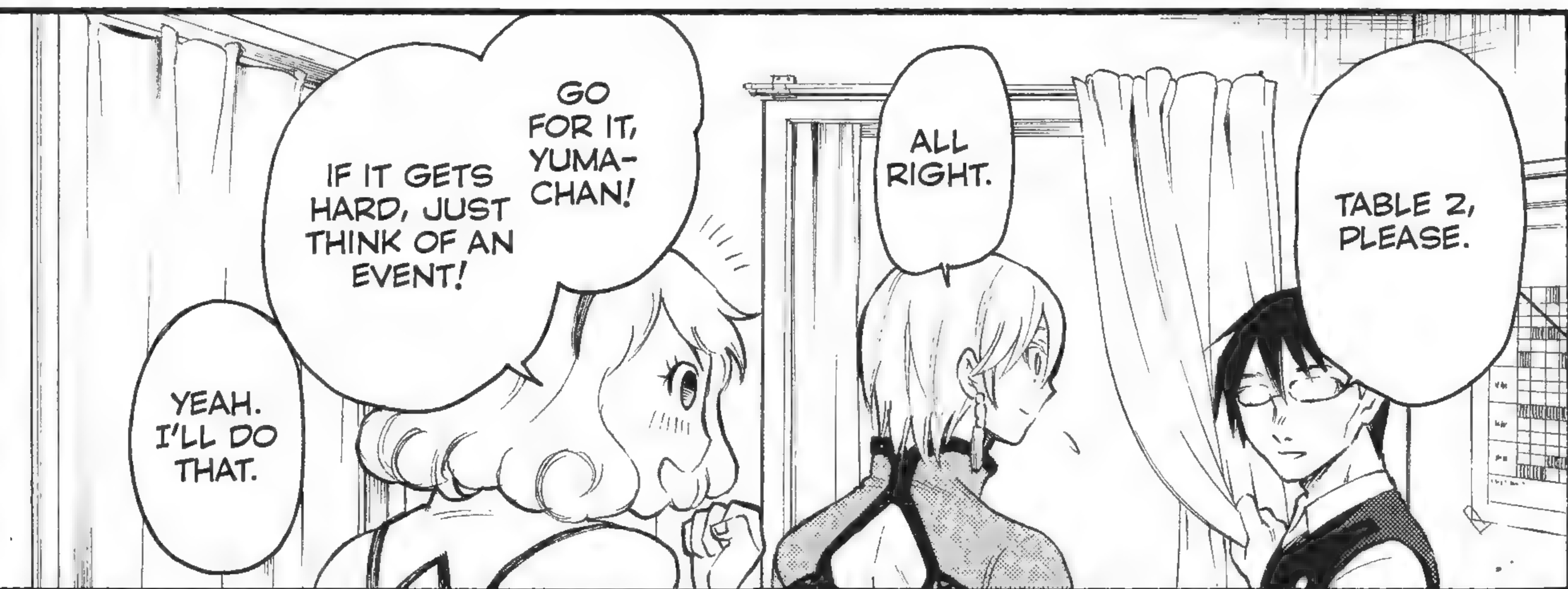


GA HA HA HA! YEAH, REALLY! YOU'RE JUST SO TALL, YUMA-SAN!

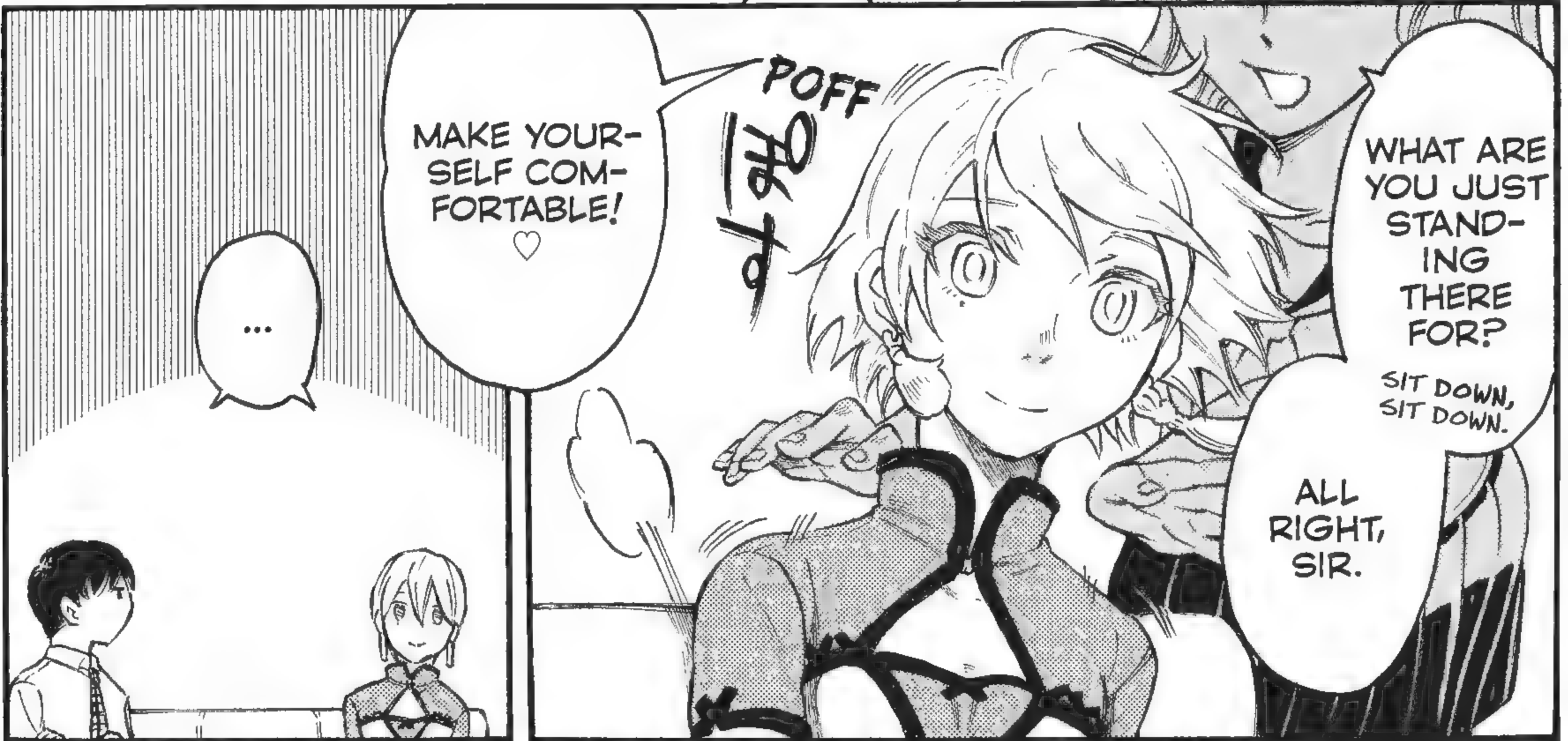
REALLY? YOU DON'T?

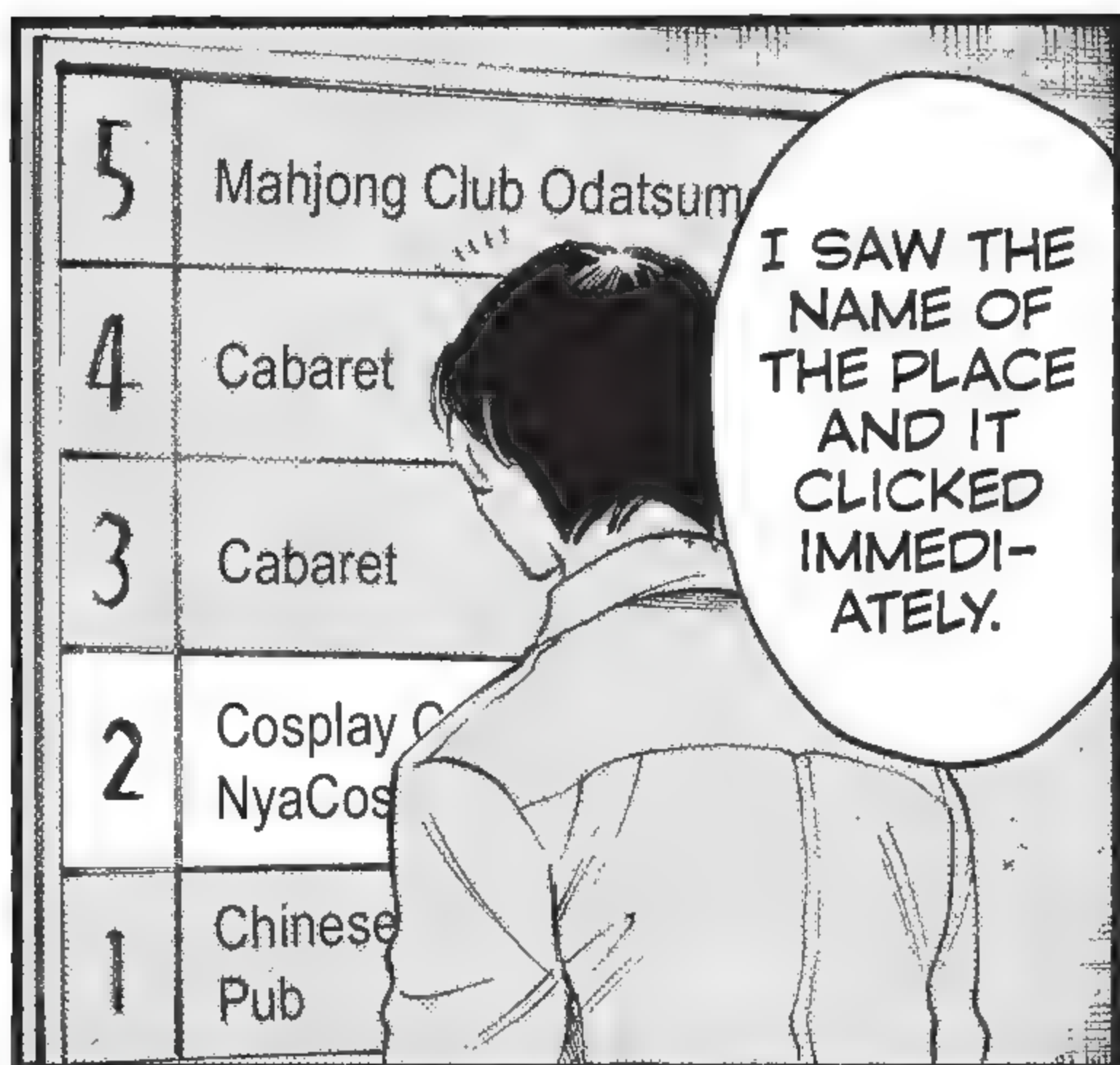
HEH HEH...









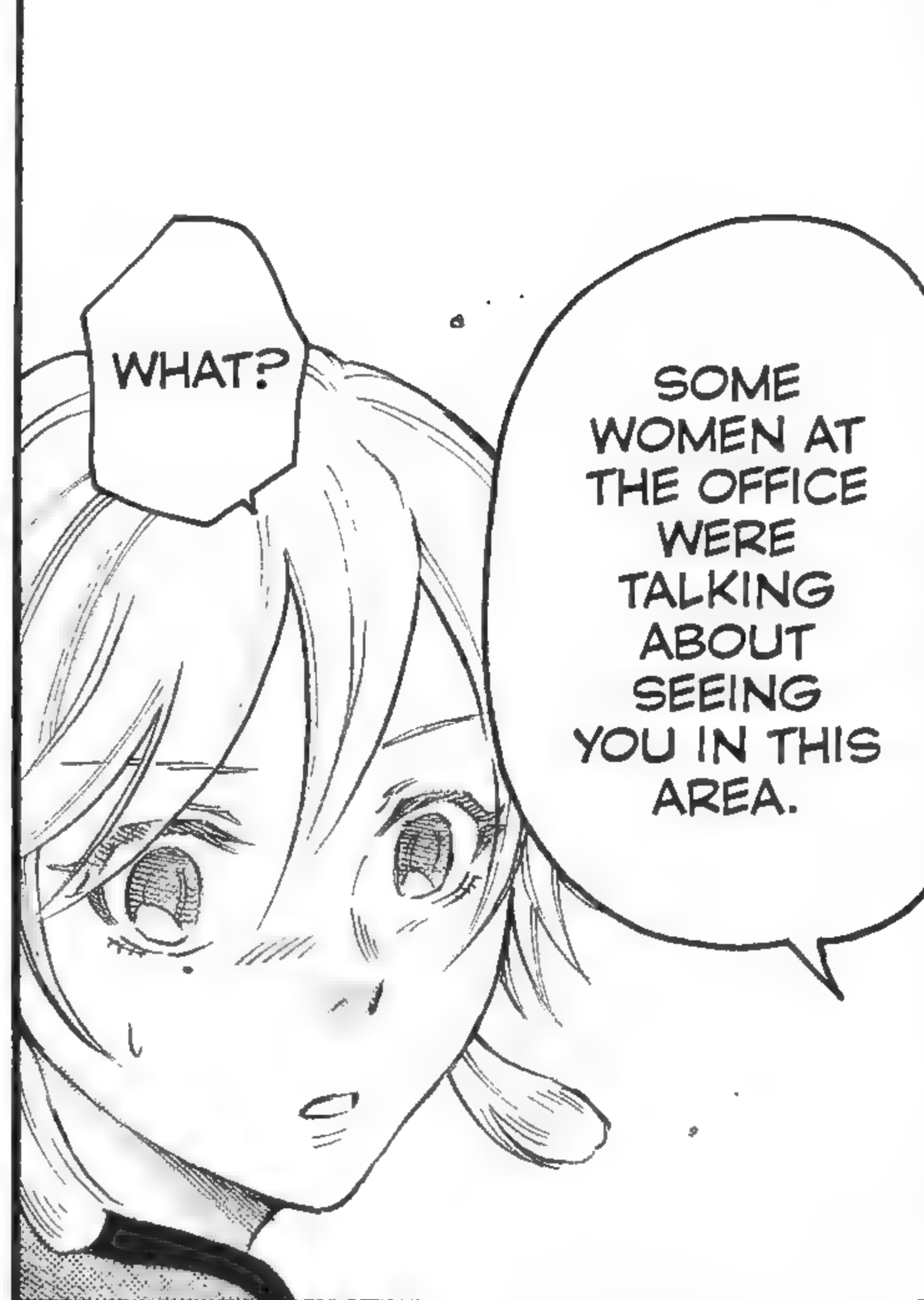




SO I CAME TO CHECK THINGS OUT ON MY OWN.

AND AFTER WHAT HAPPENED WITH HAYAMA-SAN,

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NOT BE INCLINED TO INVITE THEIR PREJUDICES AGAINST YOU.



WHAT?

SOME WOMEN AT THE OFFICE WERE TALKING ABOUT SEEING YOU IN THIS AREA.



I SEE...

OH...BUT IT DID SOUND LIKE THE WOMEN WHO WERE TALKING ABOUT YOU WERE MOSTLY CURIOUS AS TO WHY YOU WOULD NEED A SECOND JOB.



YES, ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT LIKE THERE ARE A LOT OF THEM.

SO THEY MAKE PLACES LIKE THIS NOW.

I DIDN'T KNOW.



New Event
The 15th of every month

WHEN DID YOU START WORKING HERE?

ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO.



I SEE.

I CAN'T
DRINK
ALCOHOL...
BUT I
FEEL LIKE
THAT'S
THE ONLY
PROBLEM.

YES. ALL
THE GIRLS
I WORK
WITH
AND THE
CUSTOM-
ERS HAVE
SIMILAR IN-
TERESTS—
MANGA
AND
ANIME AND
GAMES.



DO YOU
LIKE IT
HERE?



...AM I
IMAG-
INING
IT?



OH,
NOTH-
ING.

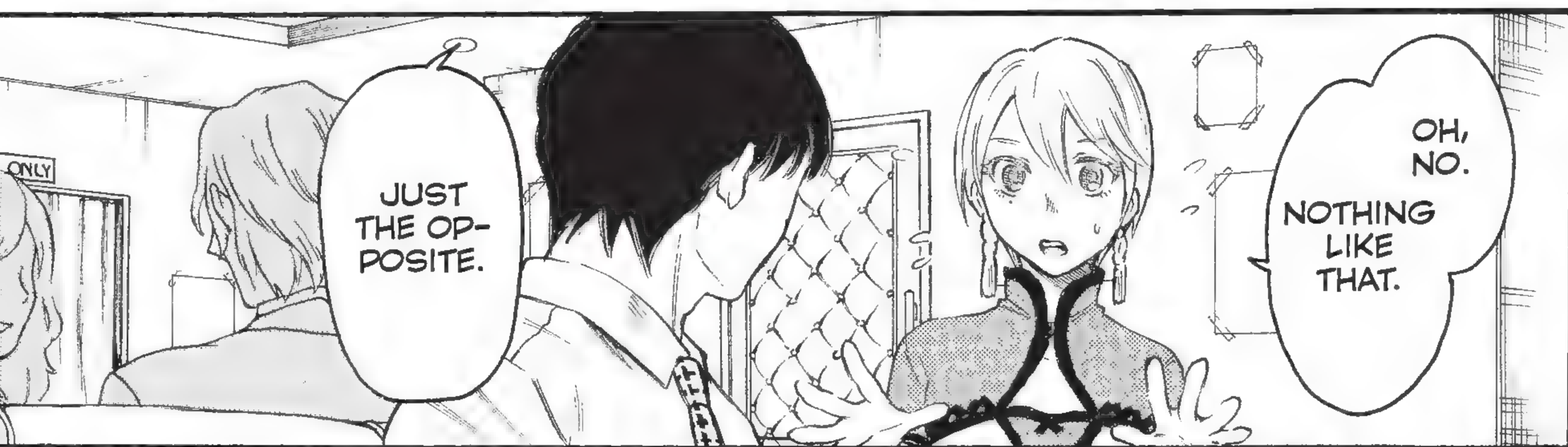


WH...
WHAT
IS IT?



OH.
SINCE
WE'RE
TALKING
ABOUT IT, I
CAN'T HELP
WONDERING
MYSELF.

I FEEL LIKE
DIRECTOR
HASE'S GAZE IS
MORE PIERCING
THAN USUAL...





SO I'D
APPRECIATE
IT IF YOU
WOULD
KEEP THIS
BETWEEN
US.

I'LL MAKE
SURE THIS
DOESN'T
HAVE A
NEGATIVE
IMPACT ON
MY WORK AT
THE OFFICE.

I'M SORRY
FOR WOR-
RYING
YOU.



...I HAVE TO
DO THIS.



RIGHT
NOW...



YOU
MAY DO
WHATEVER
YOU
WANT, OF
COURSE.

...I ONLY
CAME TO
CHECK ON
YOU.



AND AN-OTHER THING.



...IS TO SUPPORT MY HARD-WORKING EMPLOYEES.

PART OF MY JOB AS YOUR SUPERIOR...



I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO MADE HER OWN COS-TUME.

OH... THIS ?
I MADE IT MYSELF, FOR THIS JOB.



THAT COS-TUME ...

YES!



OH, YES.
UM.

YUMA-SAN, I'M SORRY. COULD YOU TAKE CARE OF TABLE 4?



OH...NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

THE CLUB DOES HAVE SOME COSTUMES THEY RENT OUT, BUT NONE OF THEM FIT ME.



YUMA-SAN, IF YOU'LL SEE HIM OFF.

YES, SIR!

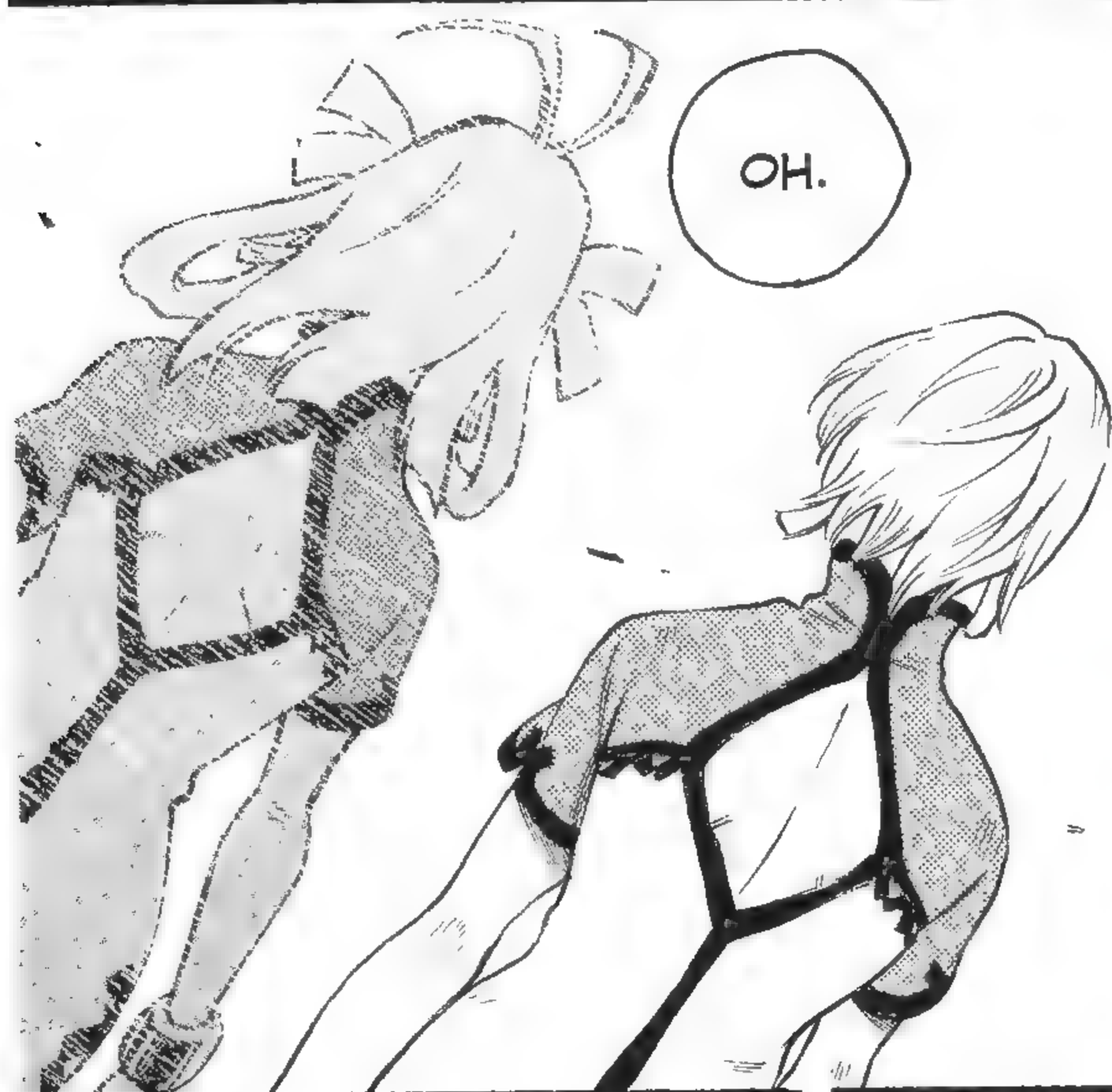
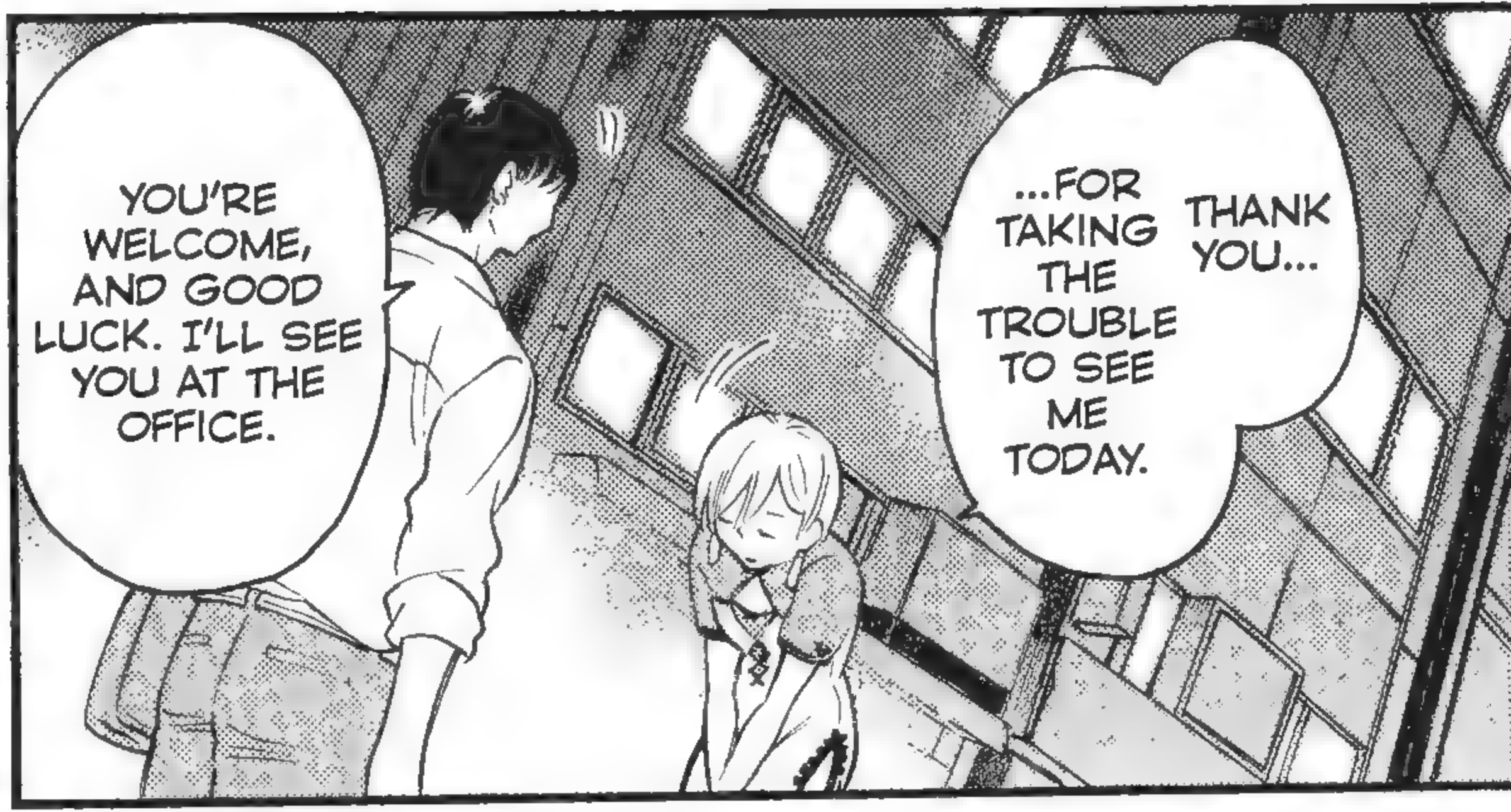
THANKS FOR COMING!

WELL, I'LL JUST EXCUSE MYSELF...



YOU'RE WELCOME, AND GOOD LUCK. I'LL SEE YOU AT THE OFFICE.

...FOR TAKING THE TROUBLE TO SEE ME TODAY. THANK YOU...



OH.

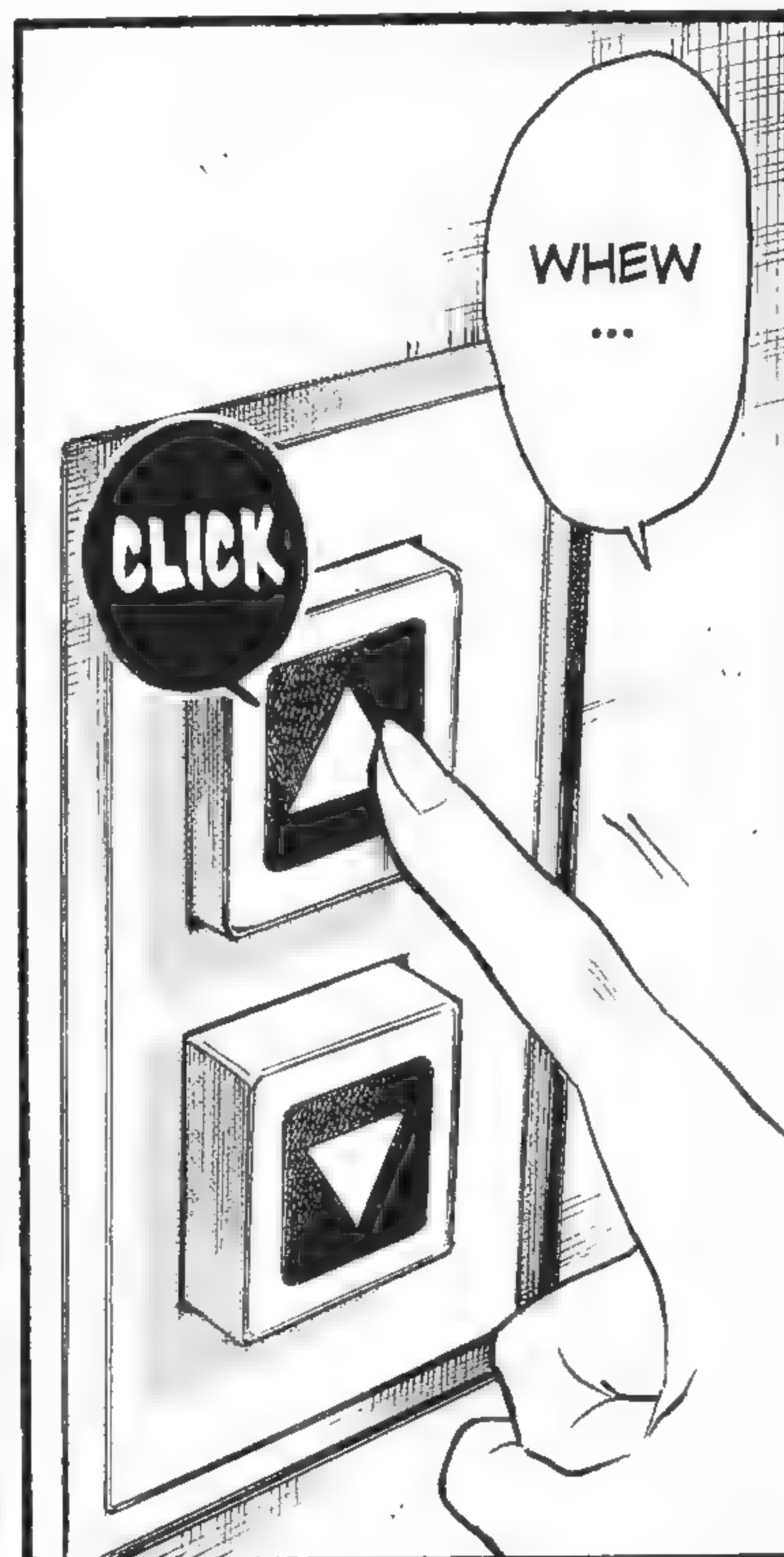


KATAURA-SAN!



THAT WAS SCARY.

HE'S NOT A BAD PERSON... BUT THAT WAS BAD FOR MY HEART.



WHEW ...





YES?



YOU'RE NIANG-NIANG FROM POWER PUGILIST LEGENDS, AREN'T YOU?!

THAT COS-TUME!

Title: Power Pugilist Legends



THAT COS-TUME ...

IT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME THIS WHOLE TIME, BUT I COULDN'T REMEMBER. I WAS TRYING TO ASK YOU.

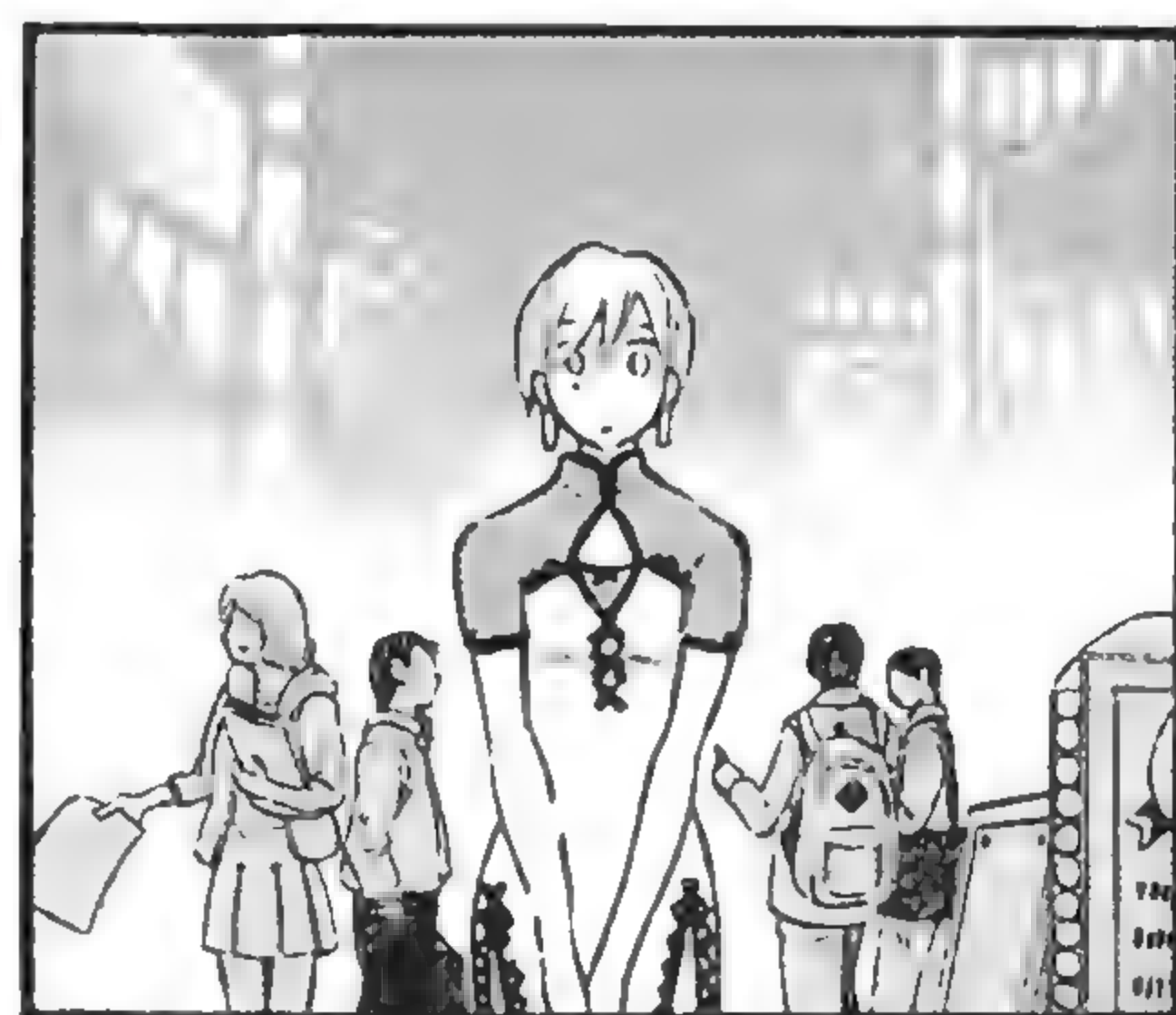
IT'S THE ONLY GAME I EVER GOT HOOKED ON.

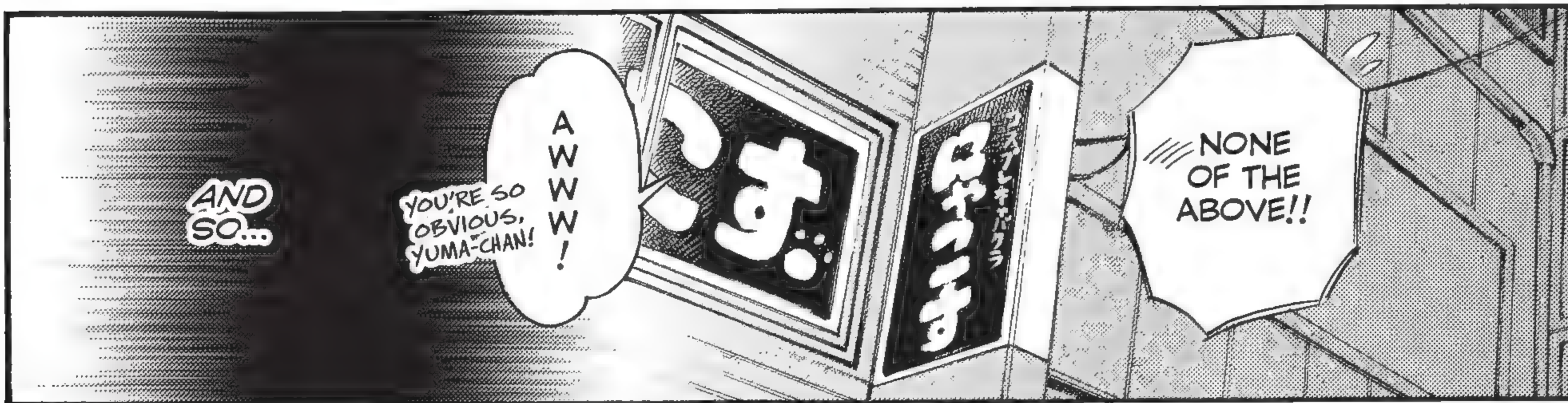
THAT'S RIGHT. I'M SURPRISED YOU KNEW THAT. IT'S AN OLD GAME.



THAT'S IN-CREDIBLE!

FOR A SECOND, YOU LOOKED EXACTLY LIKE HER.





Sign: Cosplay Cabaret - NyaCos

Section: Fashion





DON'T STEP ON IT, DAD.

TAK

TAK TAK

YOU'RE PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS.

AND YOU'RE REALLY GOING AT IT TODAY.

HUH? YOU'RE AT IT AGAIN?



October



DON'T SAY THAT! THIS IS ONE THING THAT I ABSOLUTELY MUST FINISH ON TIME!

THIS IS RUFFLE HELL. I SEW AND I SEW, BUT MY LIFE GOES ON, NEVER ANY EASIER (ETC.)

SIGH...
はあ...

UGH, WHY DO I HAVE TO HELP YOU?



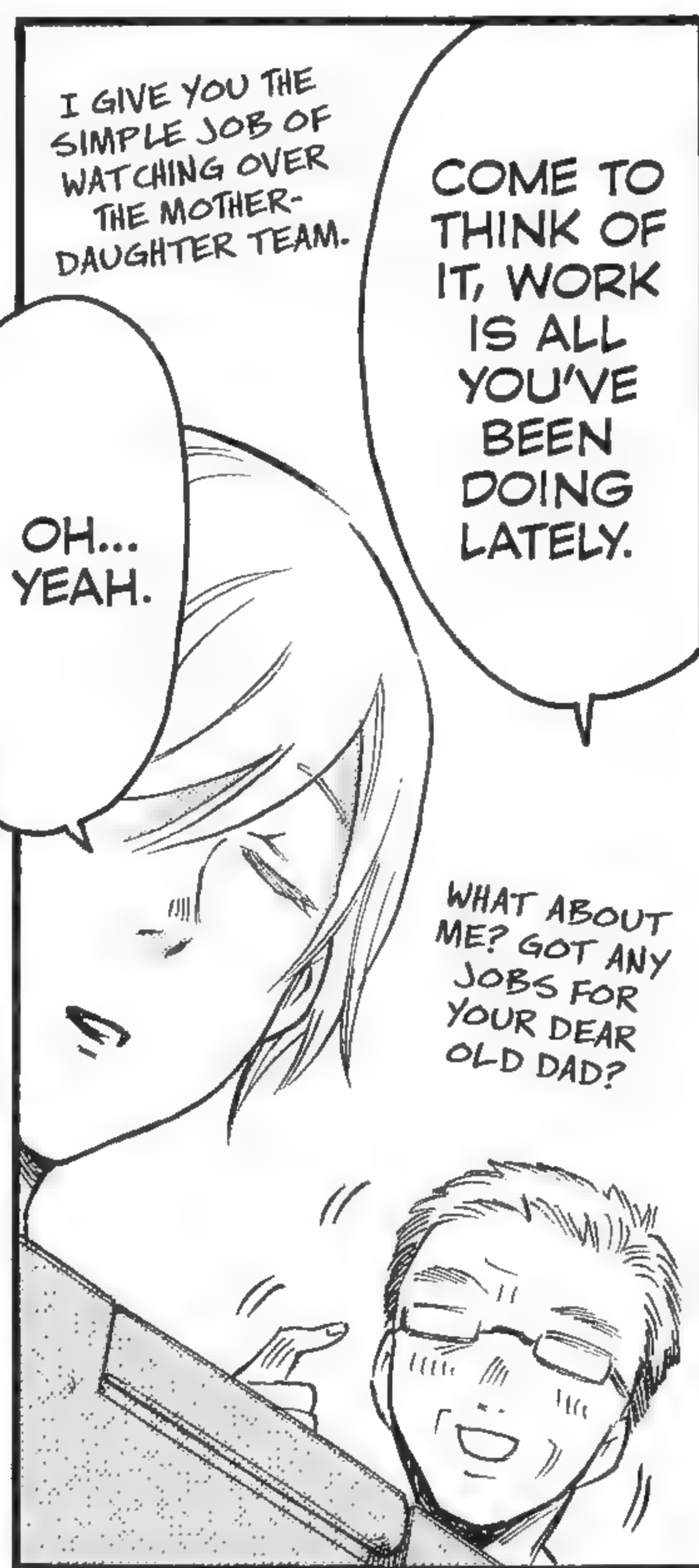
TAK TAK

THAT REMINDS ME, THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO TELL YOU.

OH... YEAH.

UM, YOU SEE.

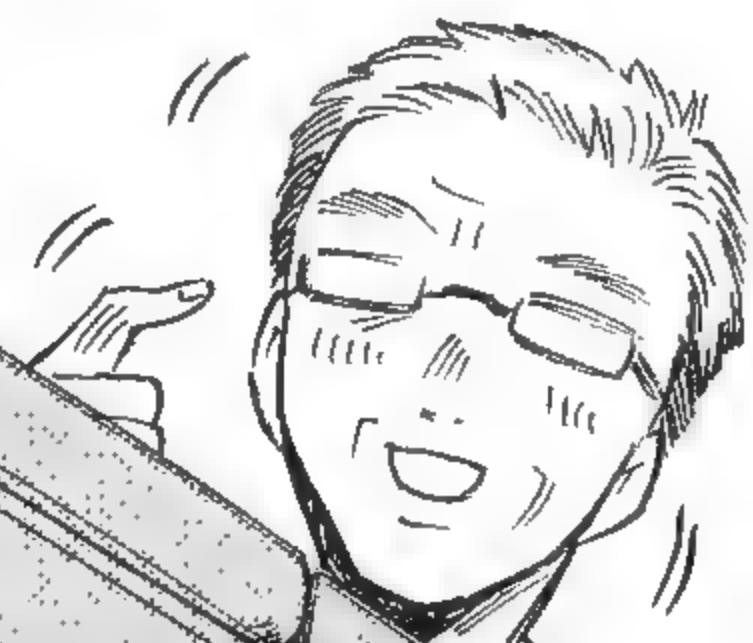
TAK

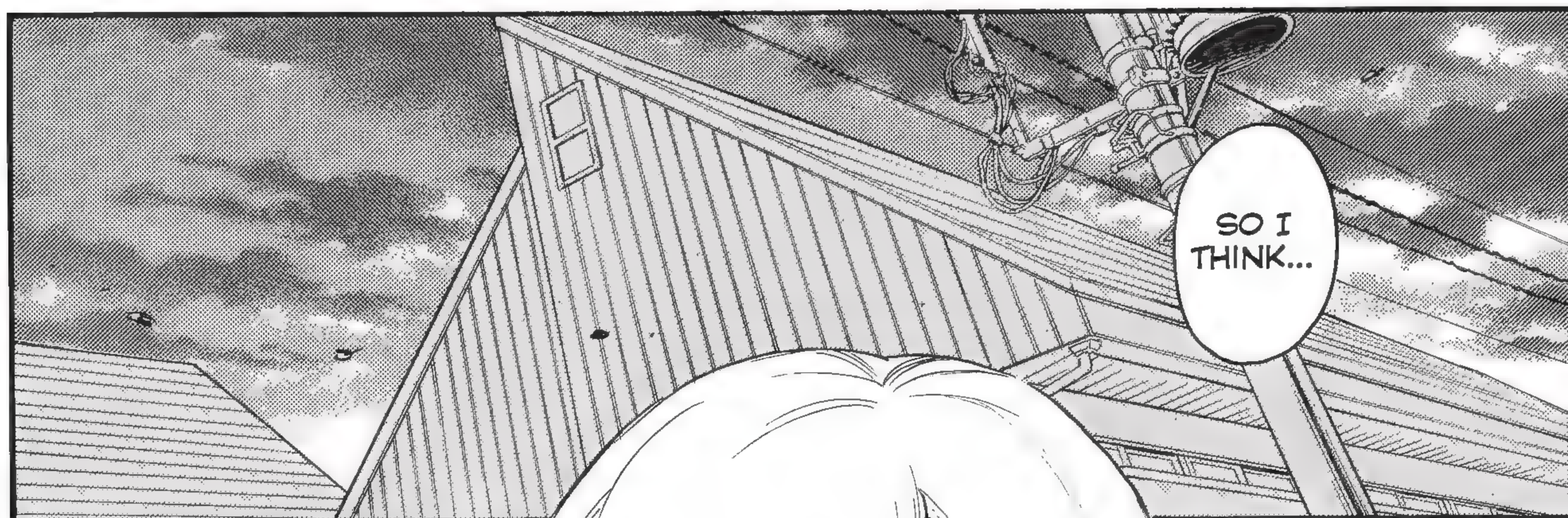
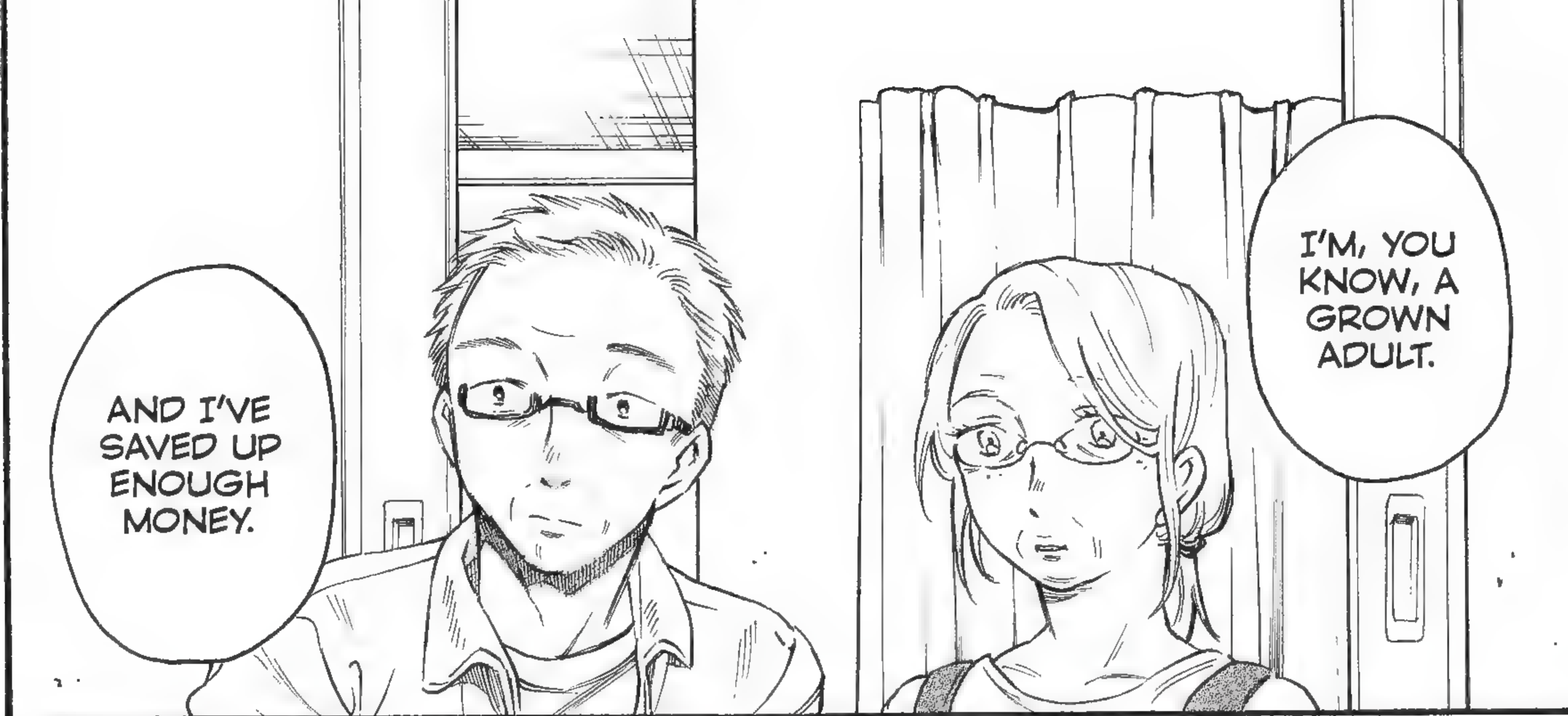


I GIVE YOU THE SIMPLE JOB OF WATCHING OVER THE MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEAM.

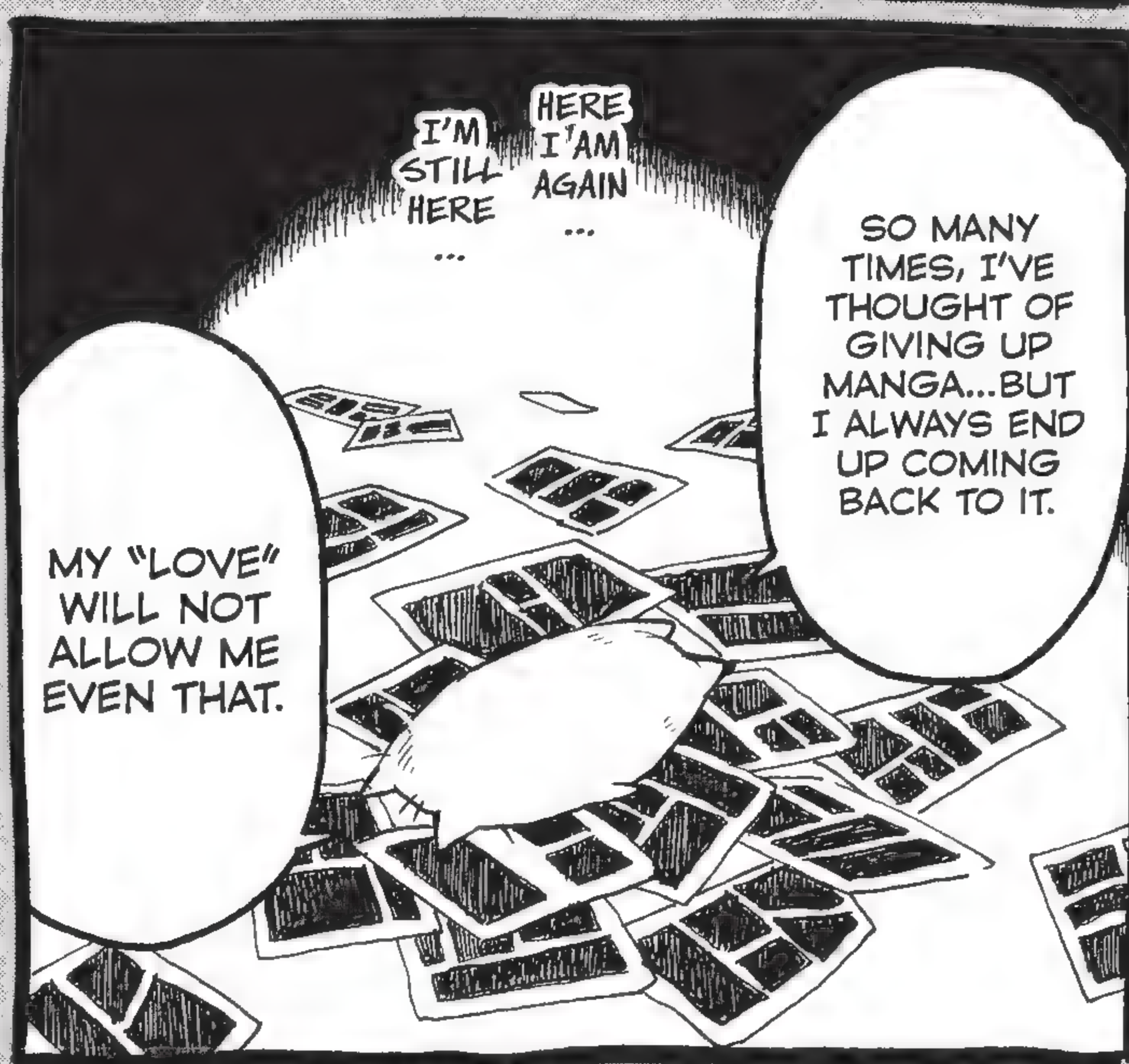
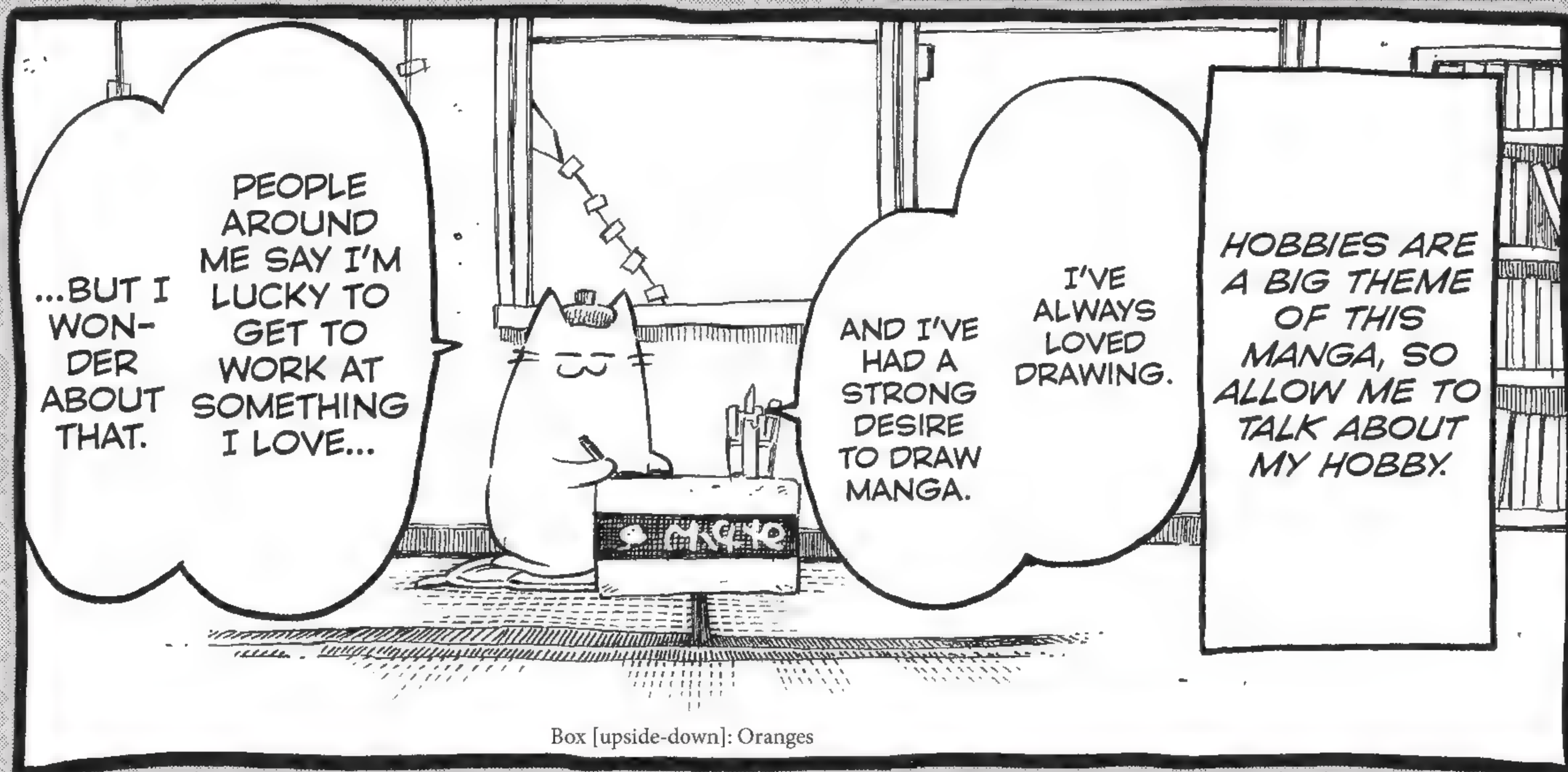
COME TO THINK OF IT, WORK IS ALL YOU'VE BEEN DOING LATELY.

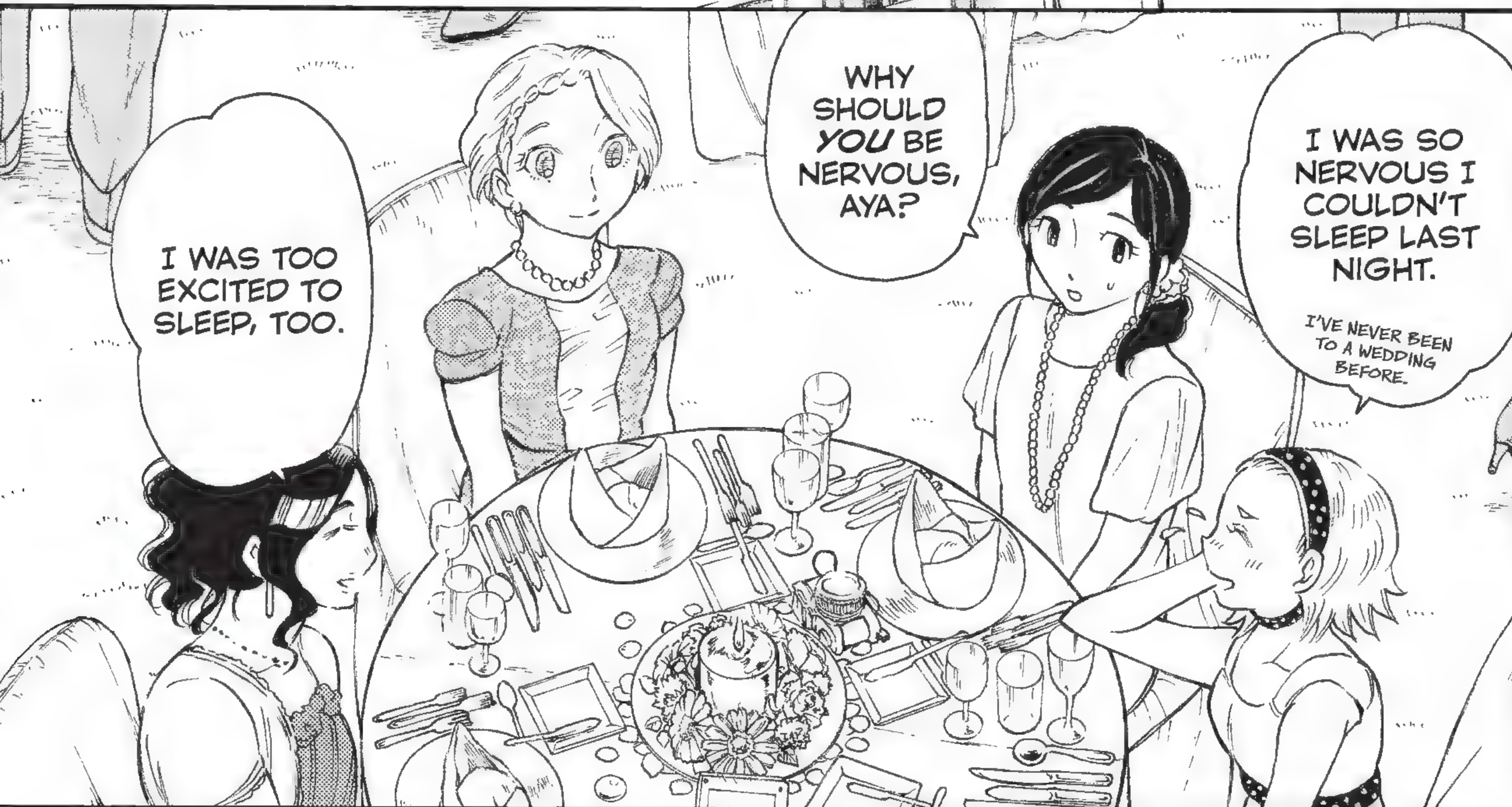
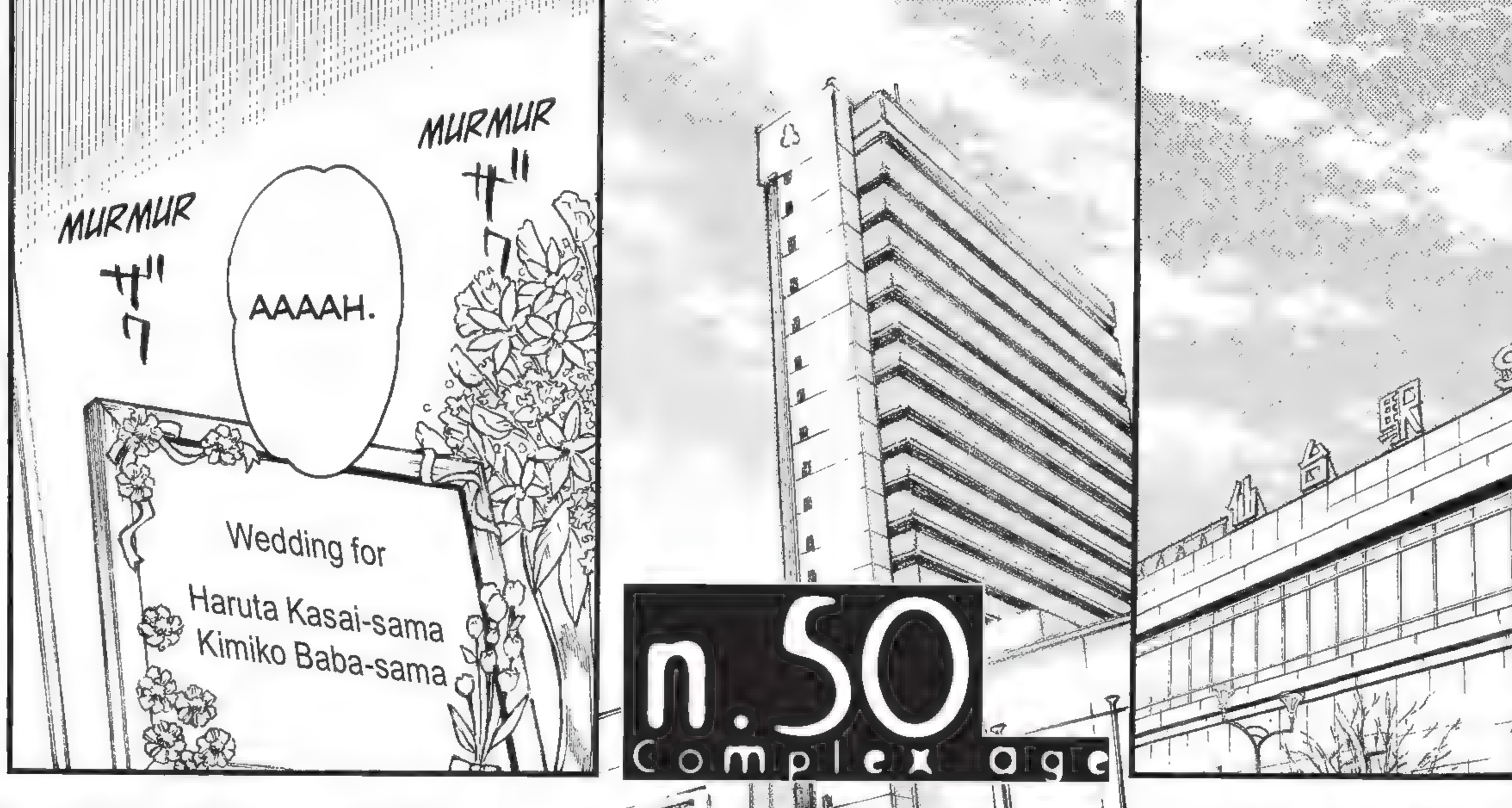
WHAT ABOUT ME? GOT ANY JOBS FOR YOUR DEAR OLD DAD?

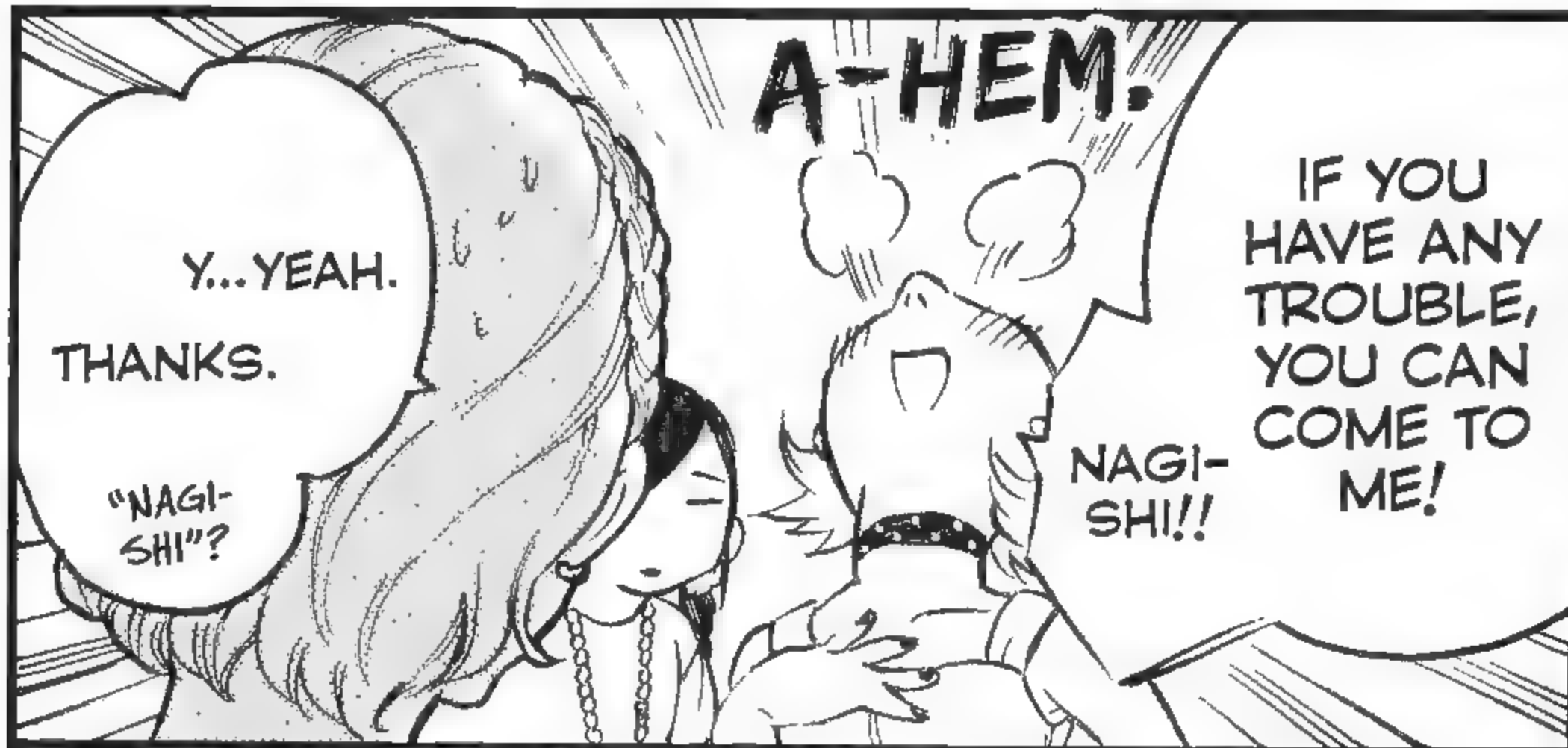


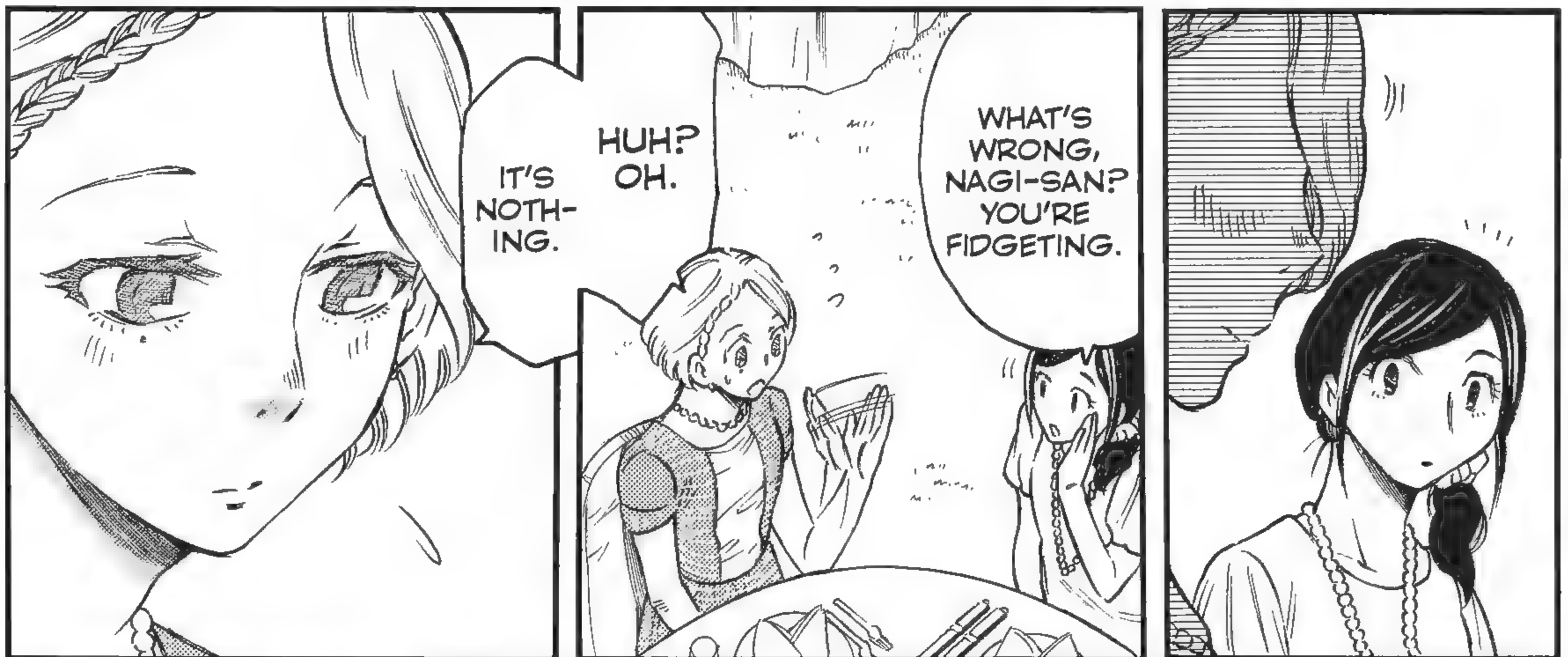
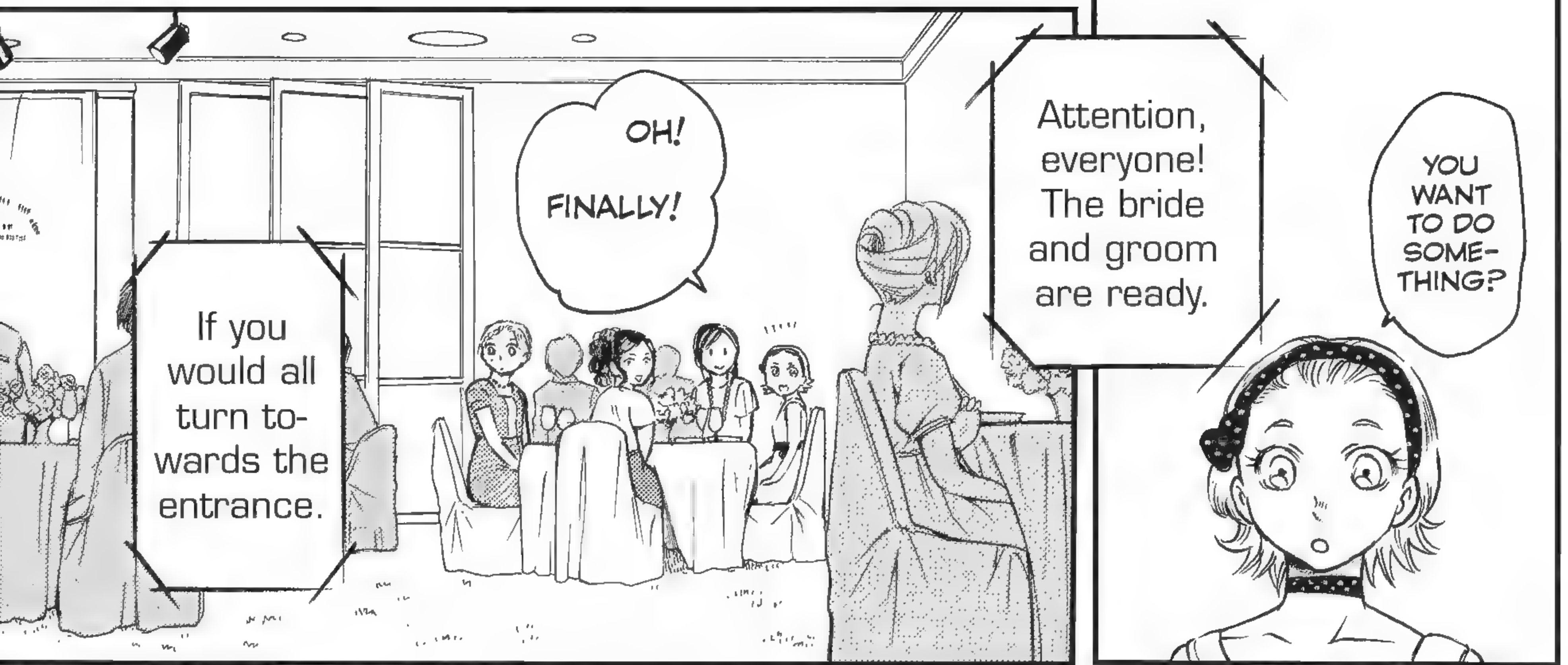


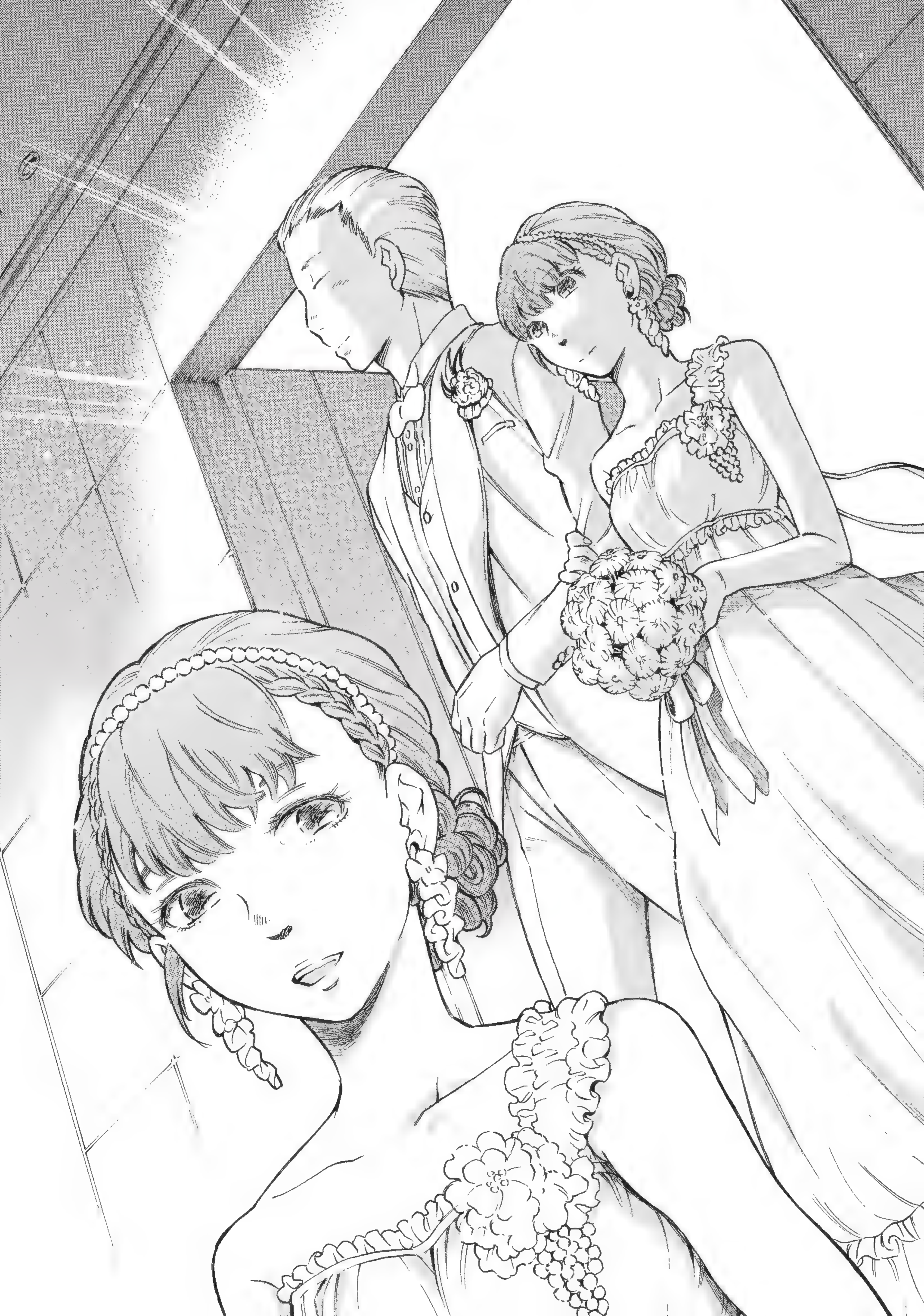
n 49 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n 50



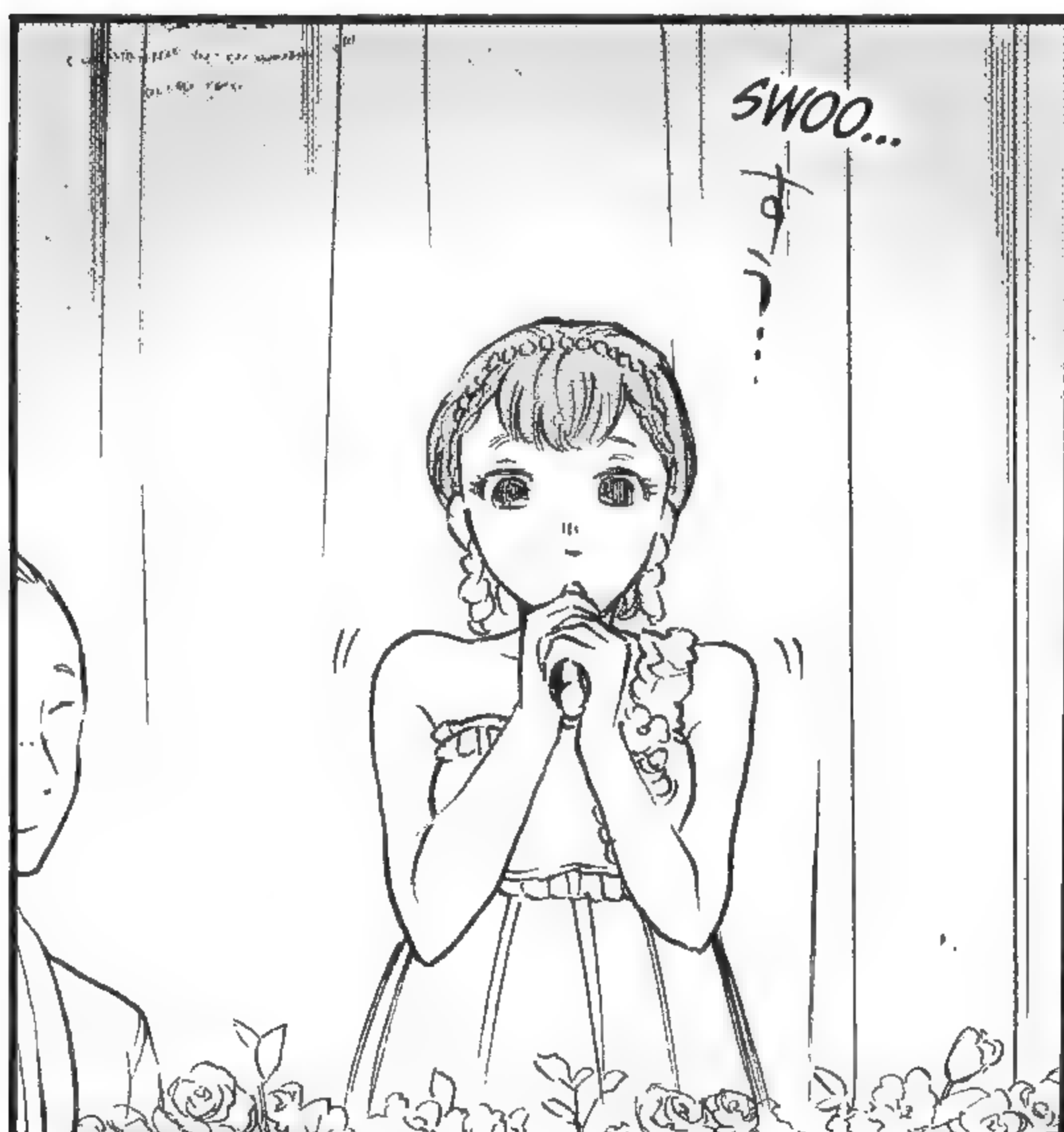
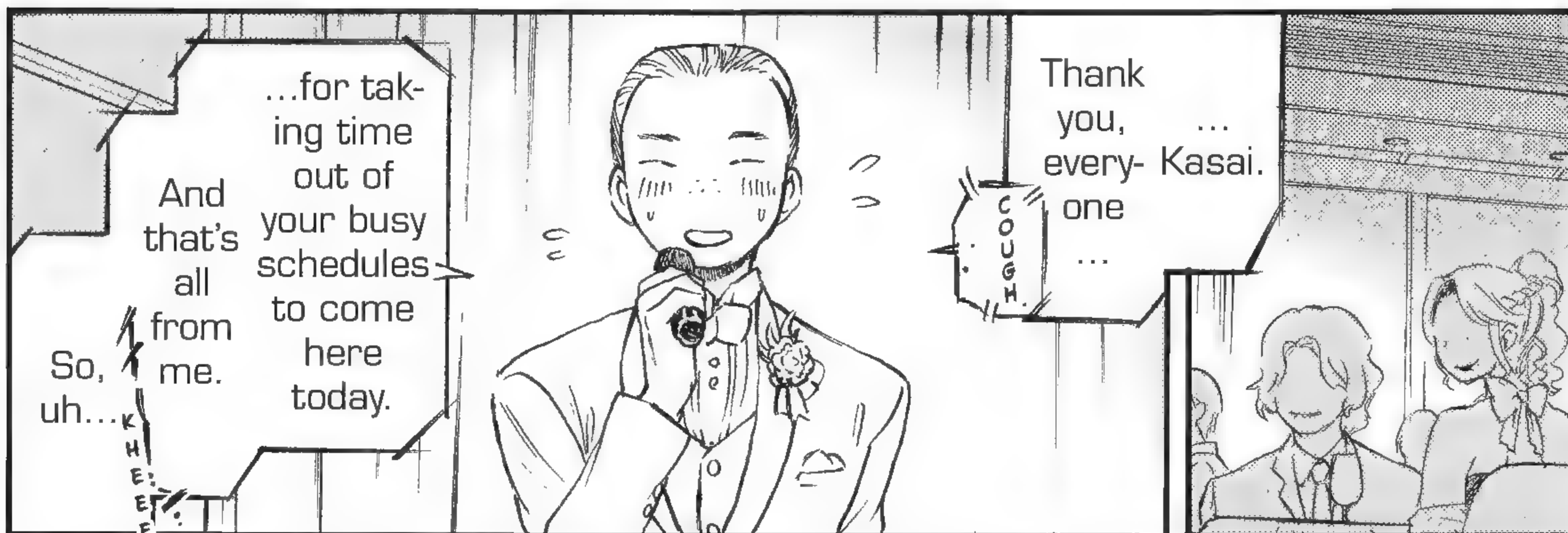
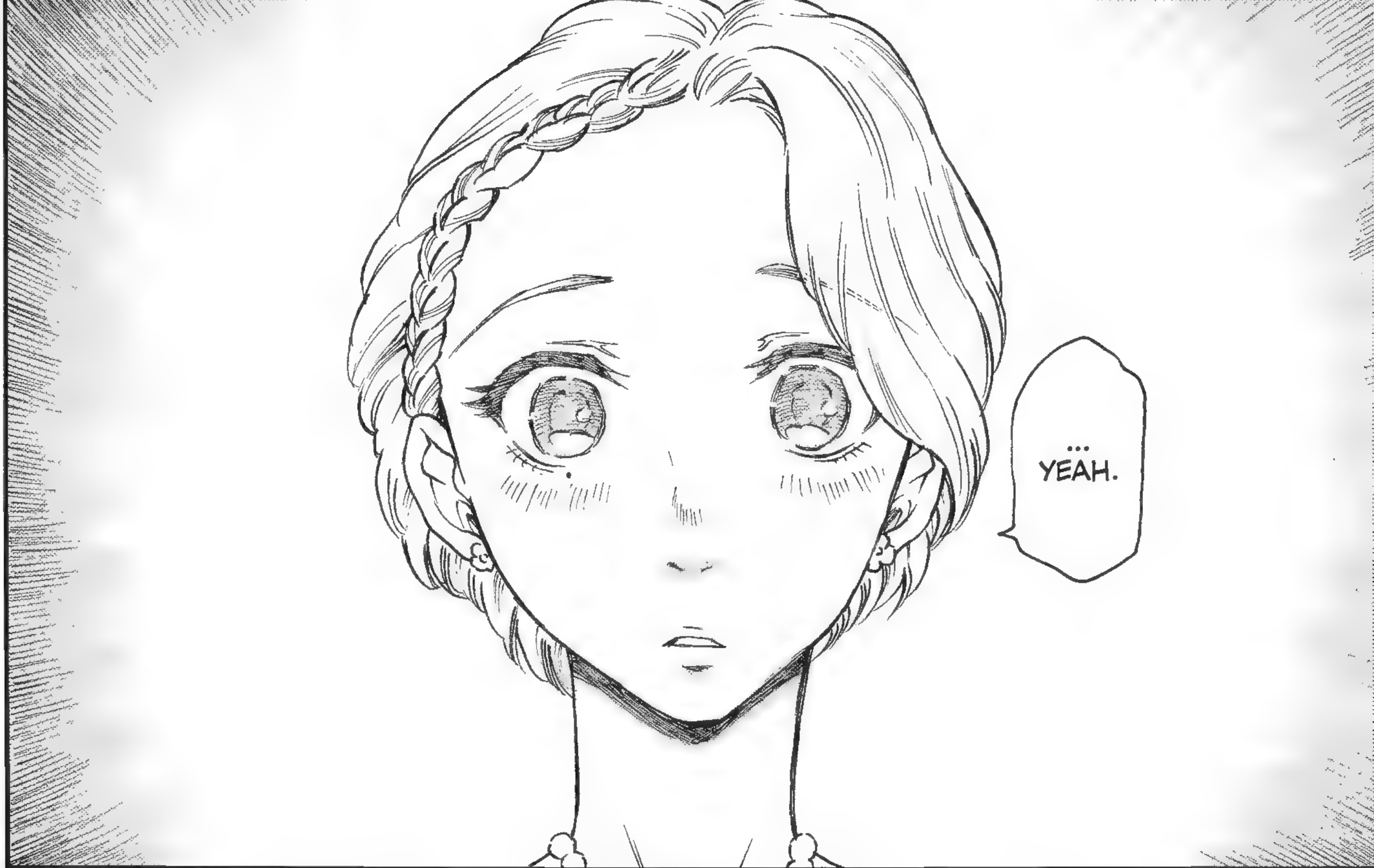


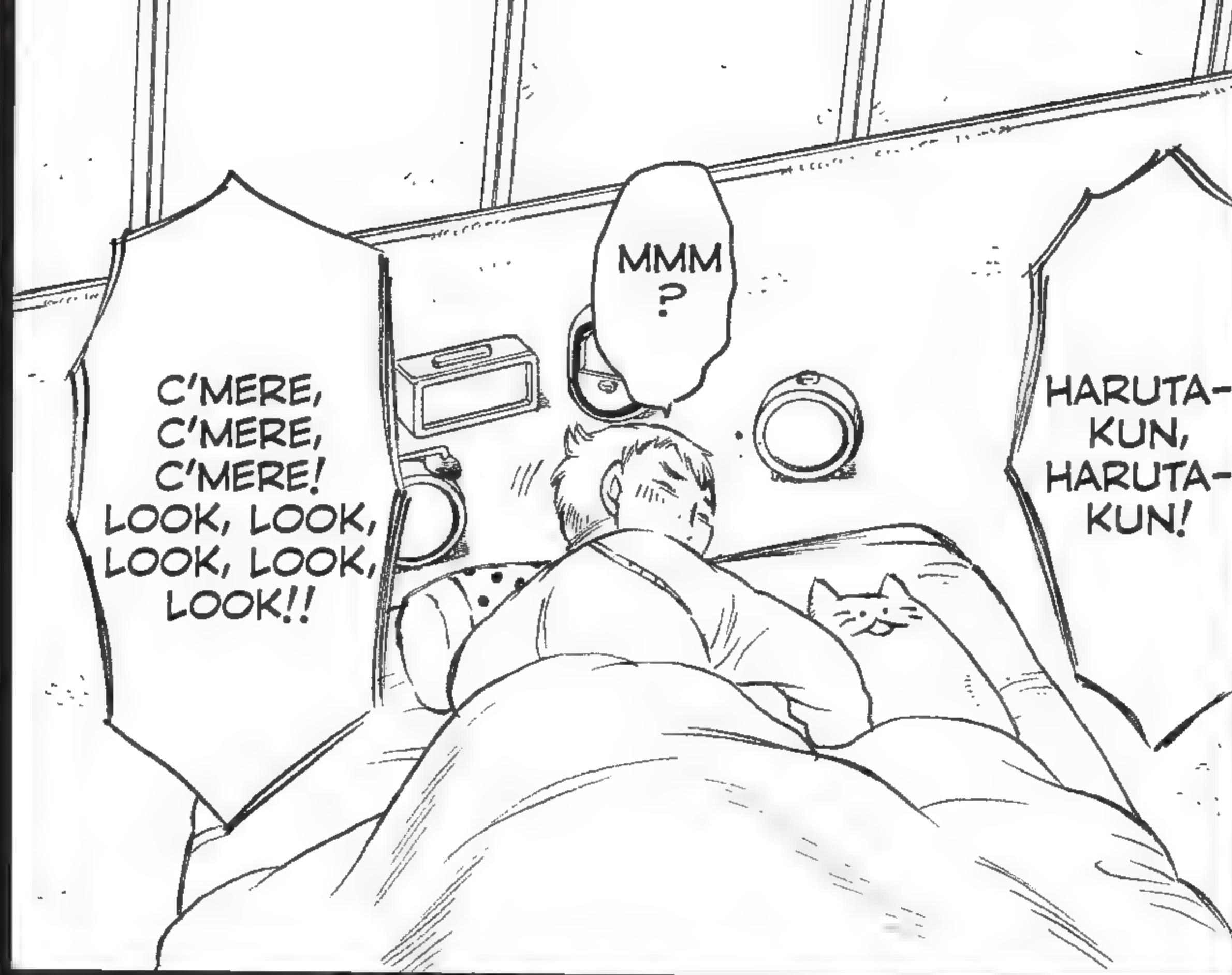












C'MERE,
C'MERE,
C'MERE!
LOOK, LOOK,
LOOK, LOOK,
LOOK!!

MMM
?

HARUTA-
KUN,
HARUTA-
KUN!



Six
months
before the
wedding

DING
DONG

DELIV-
ERY.

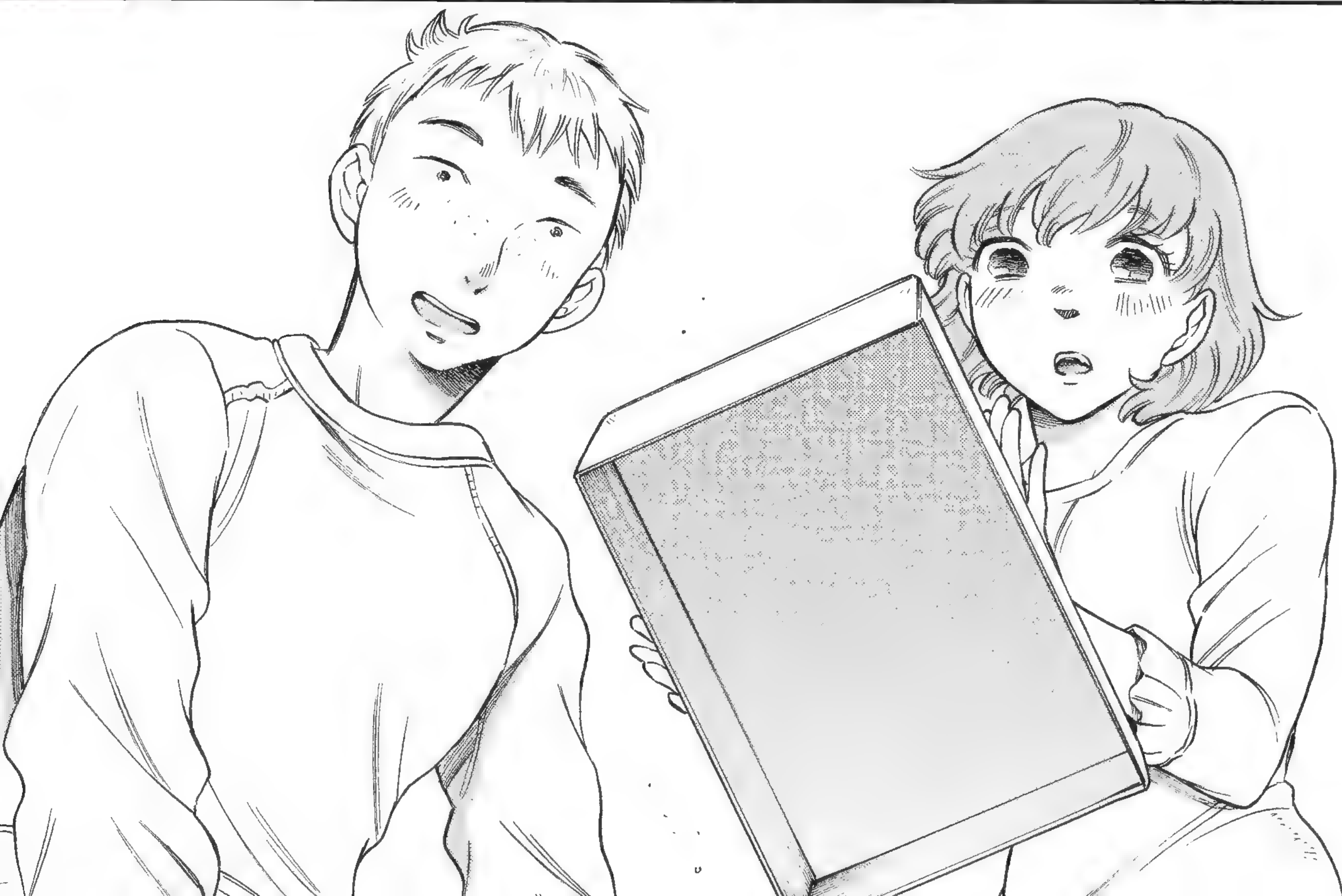


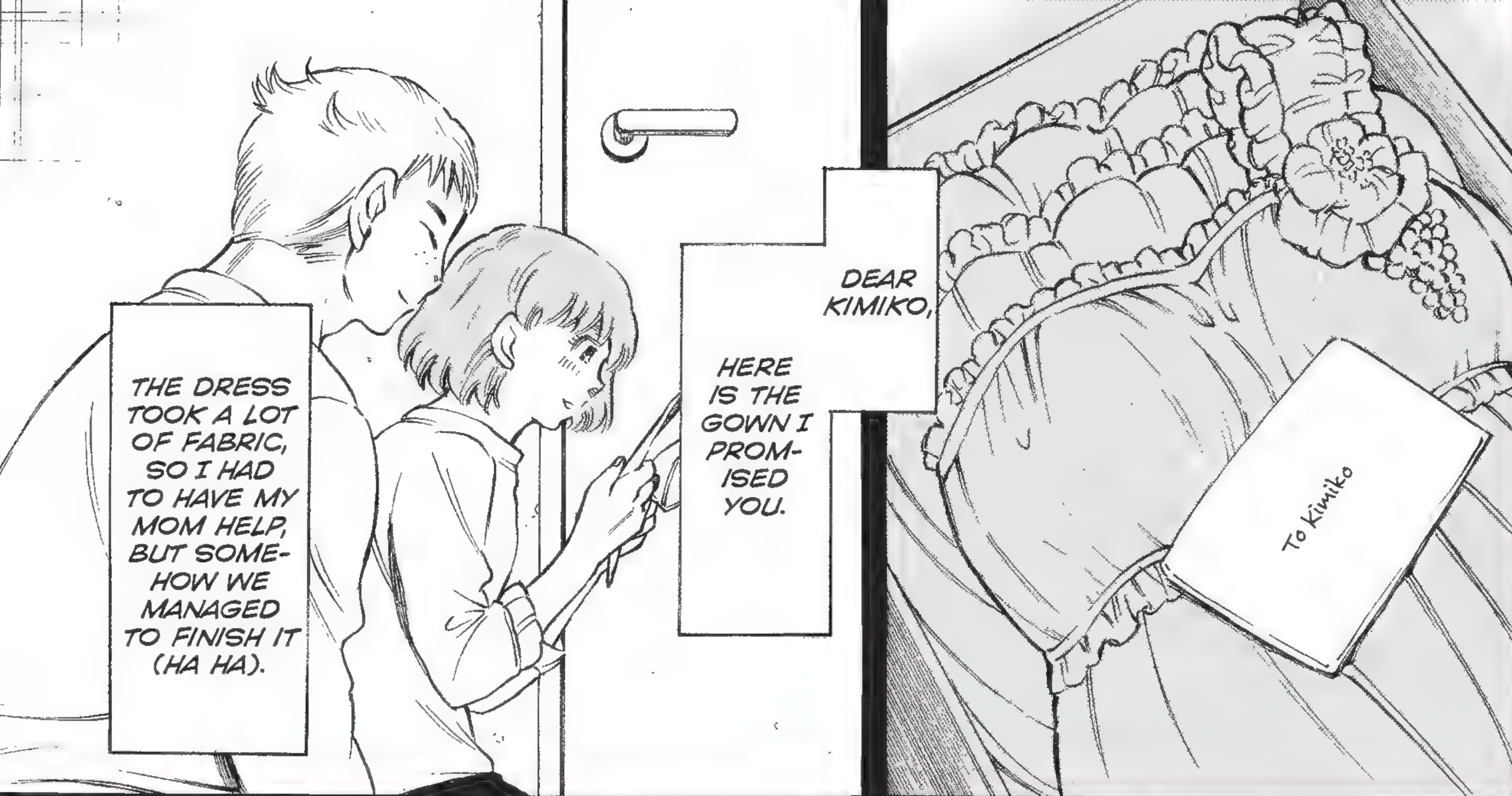
KA-JOLT

MY
GOWN!

FOR
REAL?!
OPEN IT
UP!

IT'S FROM
NAGISA!

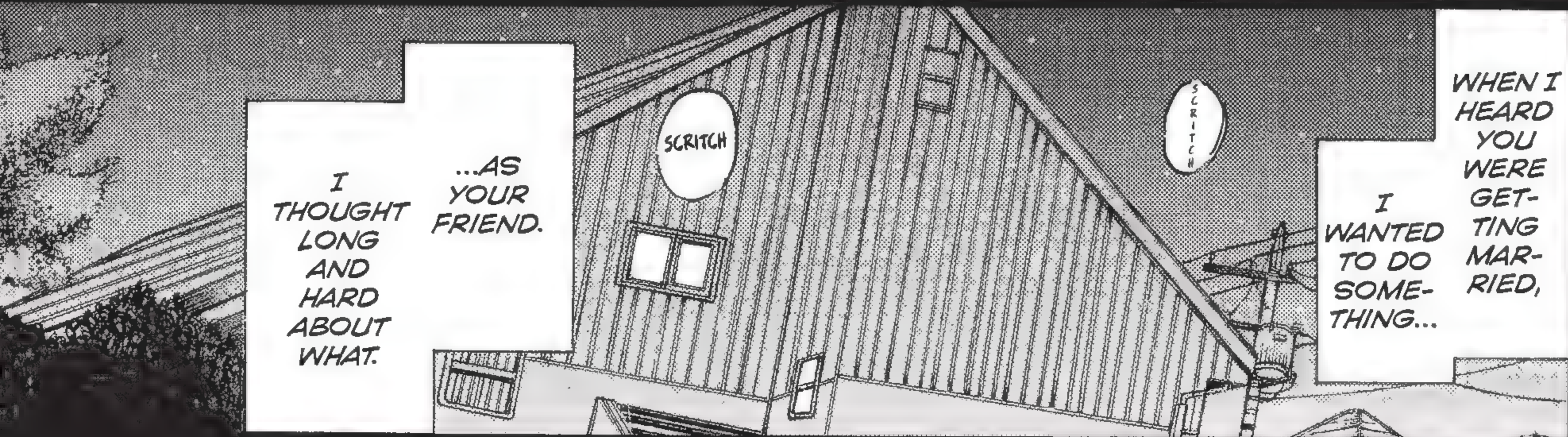




THE DRESS
TOOK A LOT
OF FABRIC,
SO I HAD
TO HAVE MY
MOM HELP,
BUT SOME-
HOW WE
MANAGED
TO FINISH IT
(HA HA).

DEAR
KIMIKO,

HERE
IS THE
GOWN I
PROM-
ISED
YOU.



I
THOUGHT
LONG
AND
HARD
ABOUT
WHAT.

...AS
YOUR
FRIEND.

WHEN I
HEARD
YOU
WERE
GET-
TING
MAR-
RIED,

I
WANTED
TO DO
SOME-
THING...



I
WANTED
TO CON-
TRIBUTE
TO YOUR
BEAUTY ON
YOUR SPE-
CIAL DAY.

...I
WANTED
TO DO
SOME-
THING
ONLY I
COULD
DO.

I
WANT-
ED TO
MAKE
SOME-
THING.

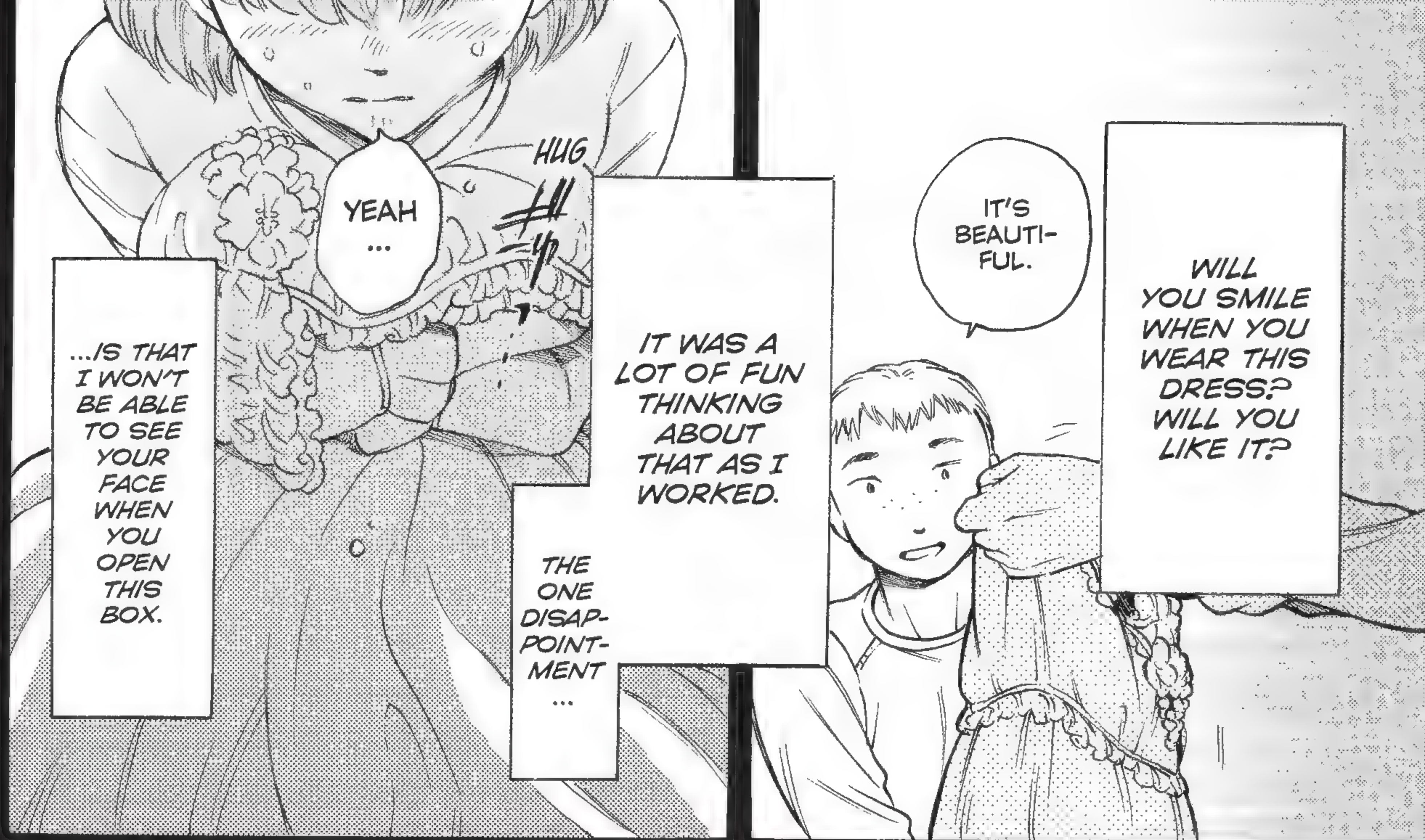
Box: Mover Meow



SO I
MADE
THIS
DRESS.



I'M SURE
YOU WOULD
BE HAPPY
WITH JUST
A SIMPLE
CONGRATU-
LATIONS.



...IS THAT
I WON'T
BE ABLE
TO SEE
YOUR
FACE
WHEN
YOU
OPEN
THIS
BOX.

YEAH
...

HUG

IT WAS A
LOT OF FUN
THINKING
ABOUT
THAT AS I
WORKED.

THE ONE
DISAP-
POINT-
MENT
...

IT'S
BEAUTI-
FUL.

WILL
YOU SMILE
WHEN YOU
WEAR THIS
DRESS?
WILL YOU
LIKE IT?



LOVE,
NAGISA

I'M SO
HAPPY
RIGHT
NOW.

I LOVE
IT...

I HOPE
WHEN I
DO GET
TO SEE IT,
YOU'LL BE
WEARING
THE
BRIGHTEST
OF SMILES.



...I could
tell right
away how
much love
Nagisa
put into
making it
for me.

So even
if it is a
little em-
barrass-
ing, I'd like
to take this
opportu-
nity...

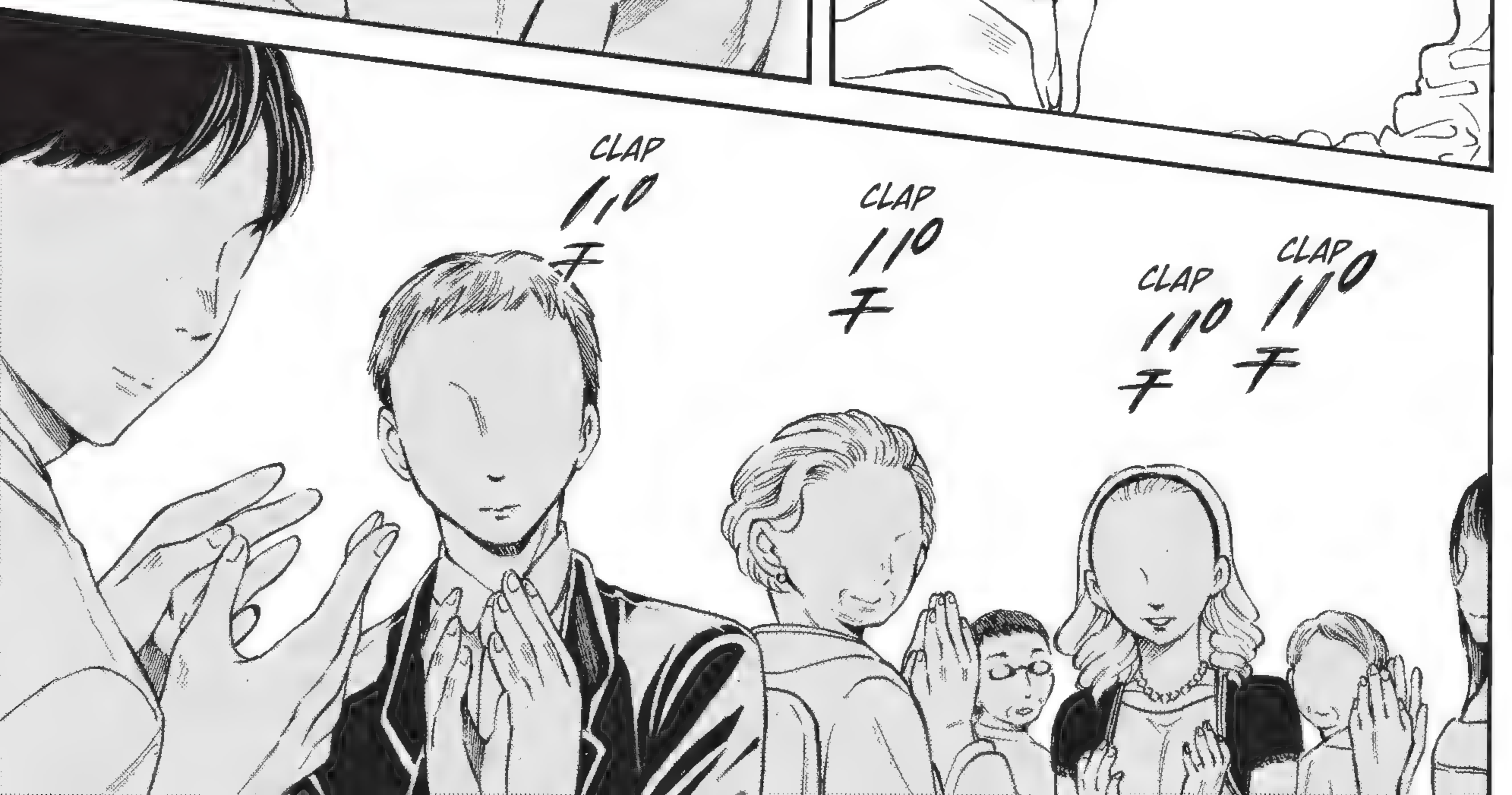
When
I put
this
dress
on...



Thank
you so
much.



...To say
to my
friend,
who's
awkward
with
everything
but her
hands...

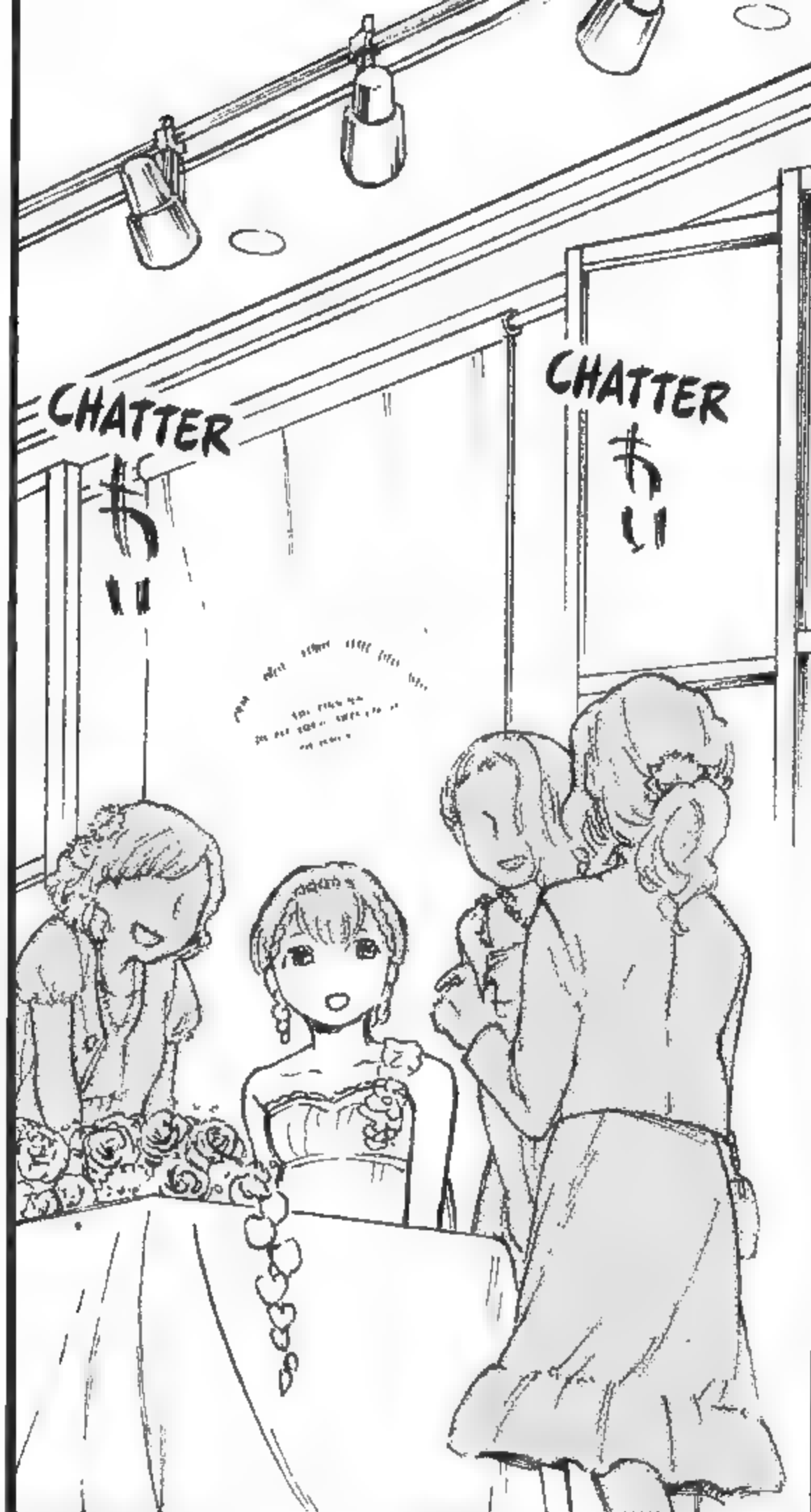


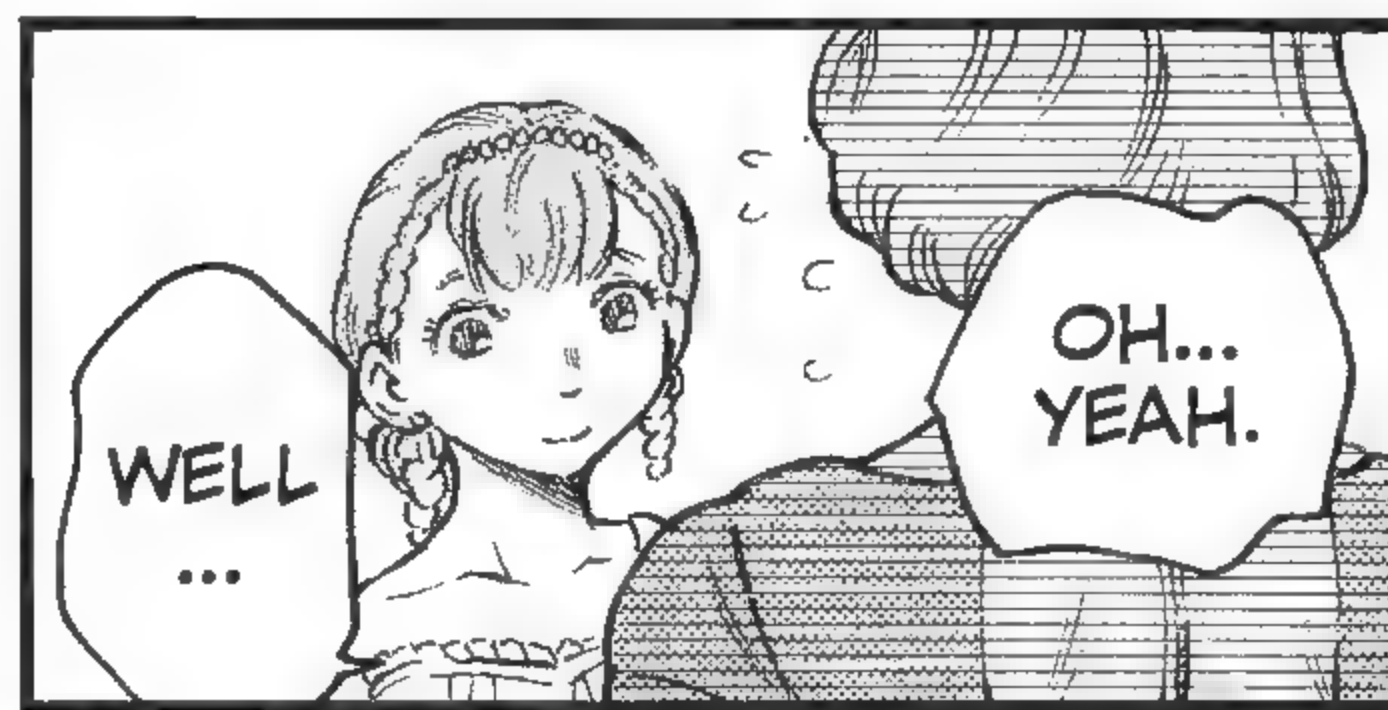
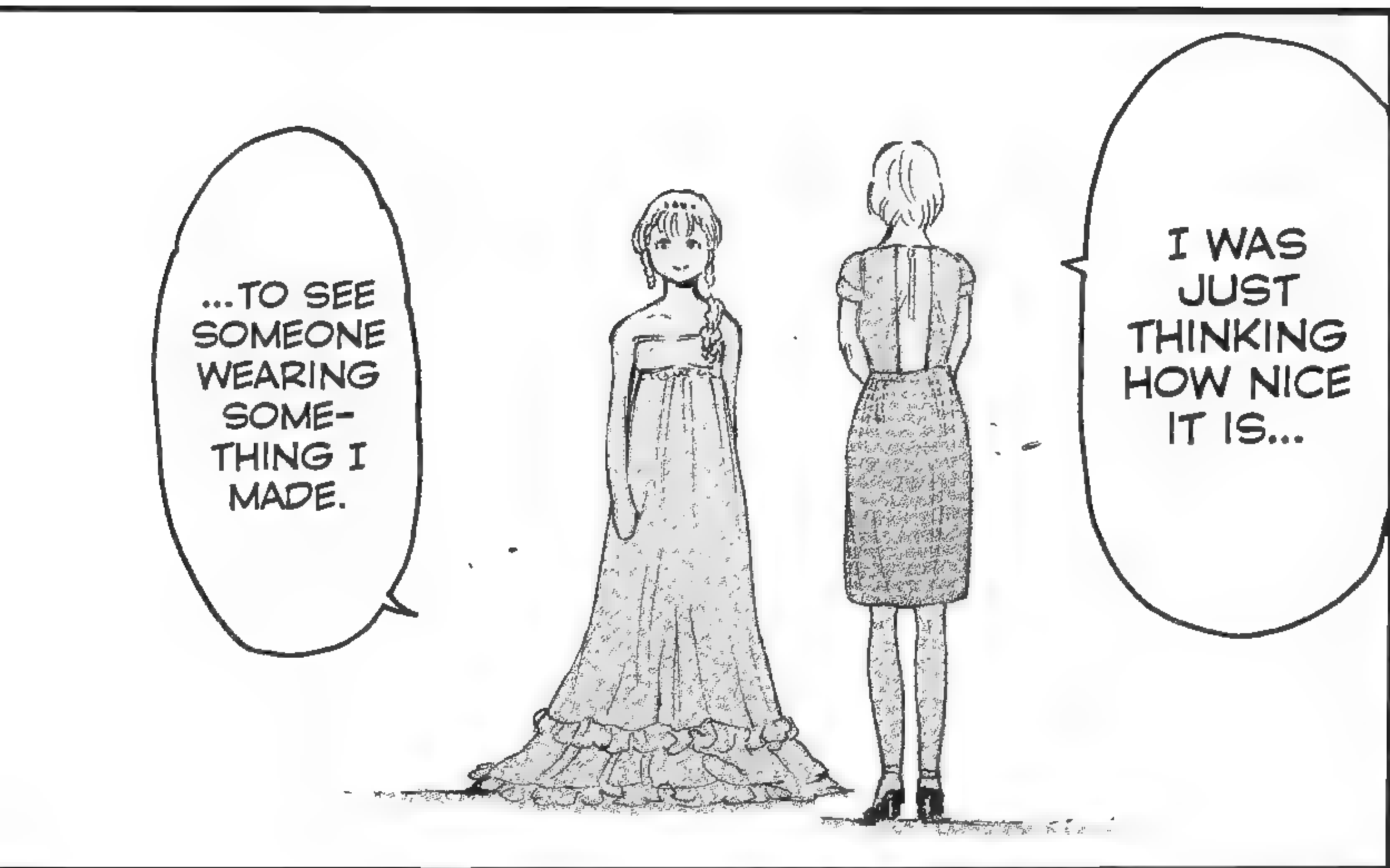
CLAP
110
7

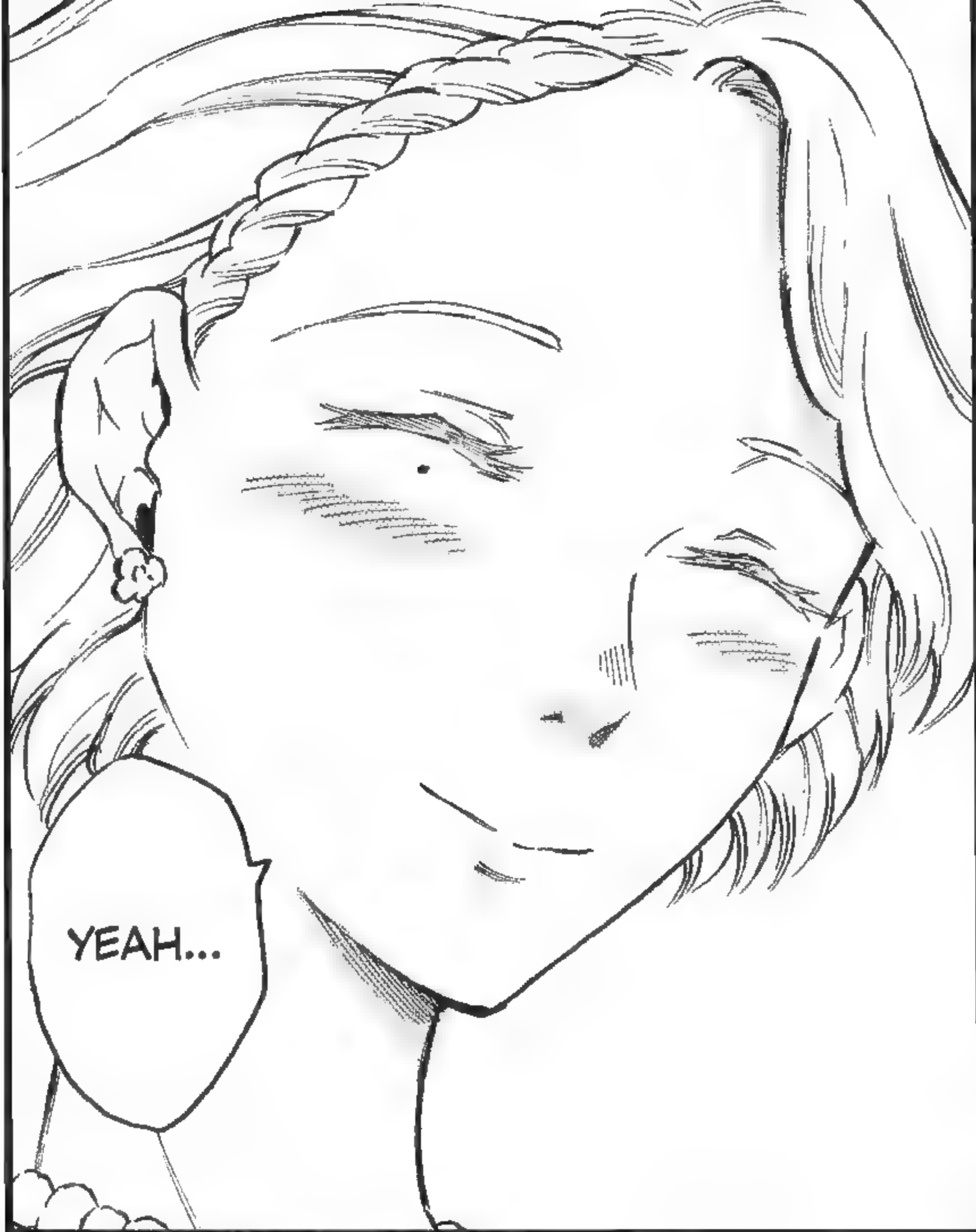
CLAP
110
7

CLAP
110
7

CLAP
110
7







YEAH...



YOU
ALWAYS GAIN
SOMETHING
ELSE. THAT'S
ONE THING
I'M SURE OF.

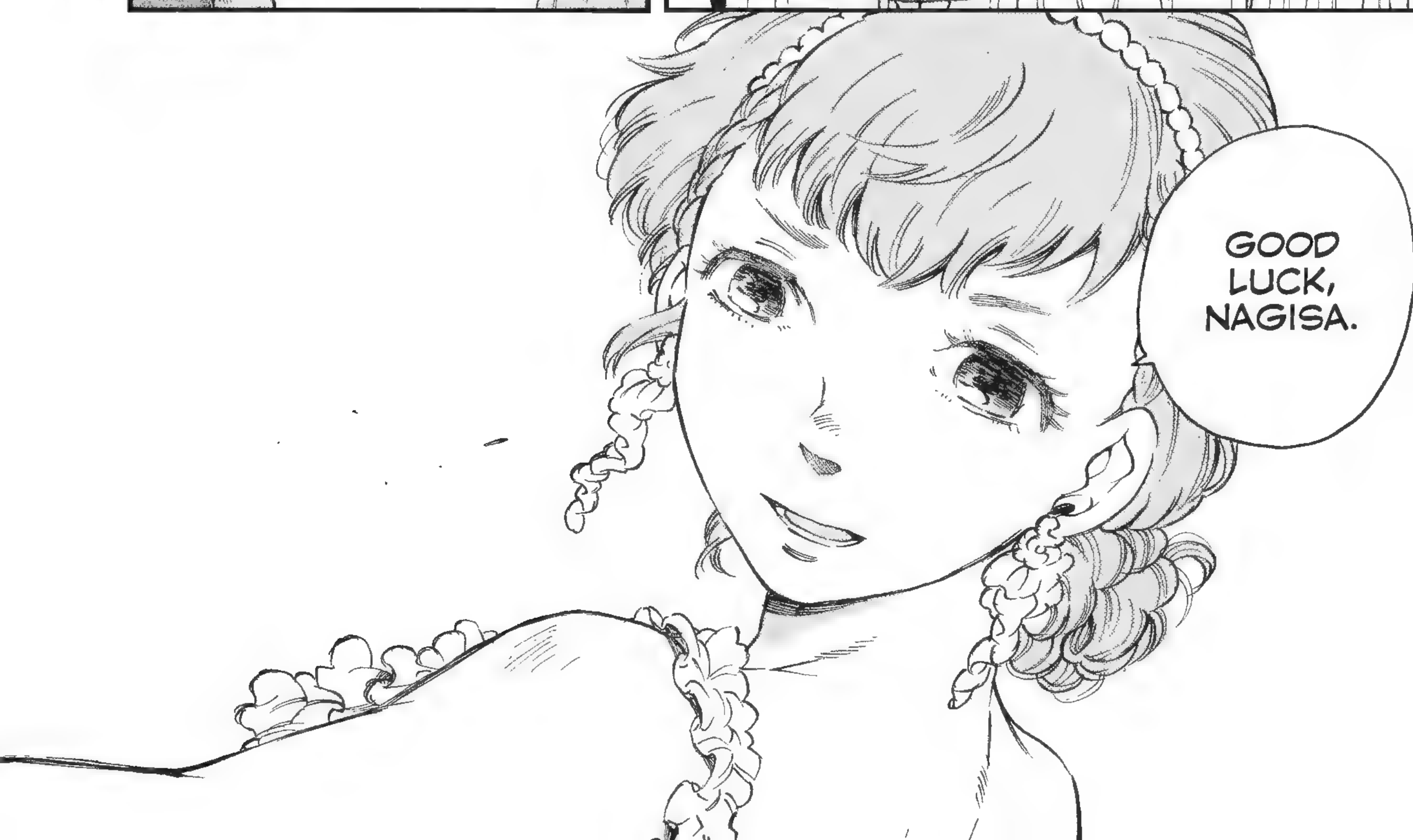


DON'T
WORRY.
YOU'LL
DO JUST
FINE.



PRETTY
WELL. I'M
WORKING
THINGS
OUT, WITH
HAYAMA-
SAN'S HELP.

WELL
?
HOW IS
EVERY-
THING
GOING?



GOOD
LUCK,
NAGISA.

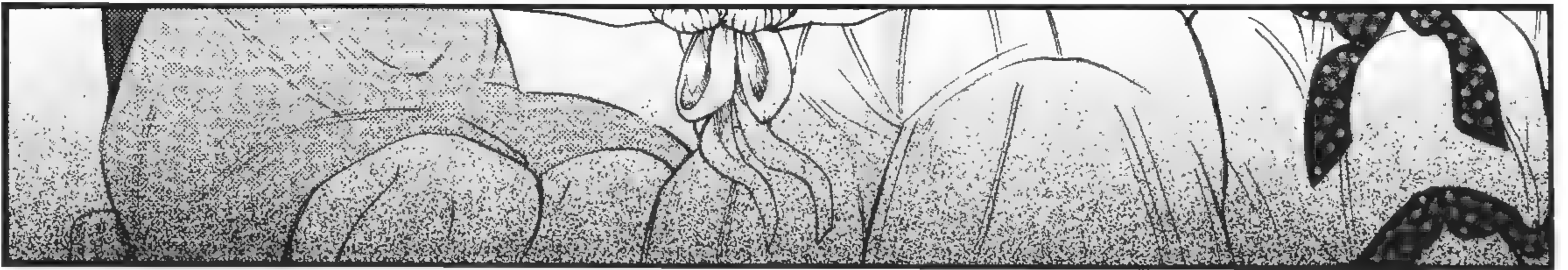
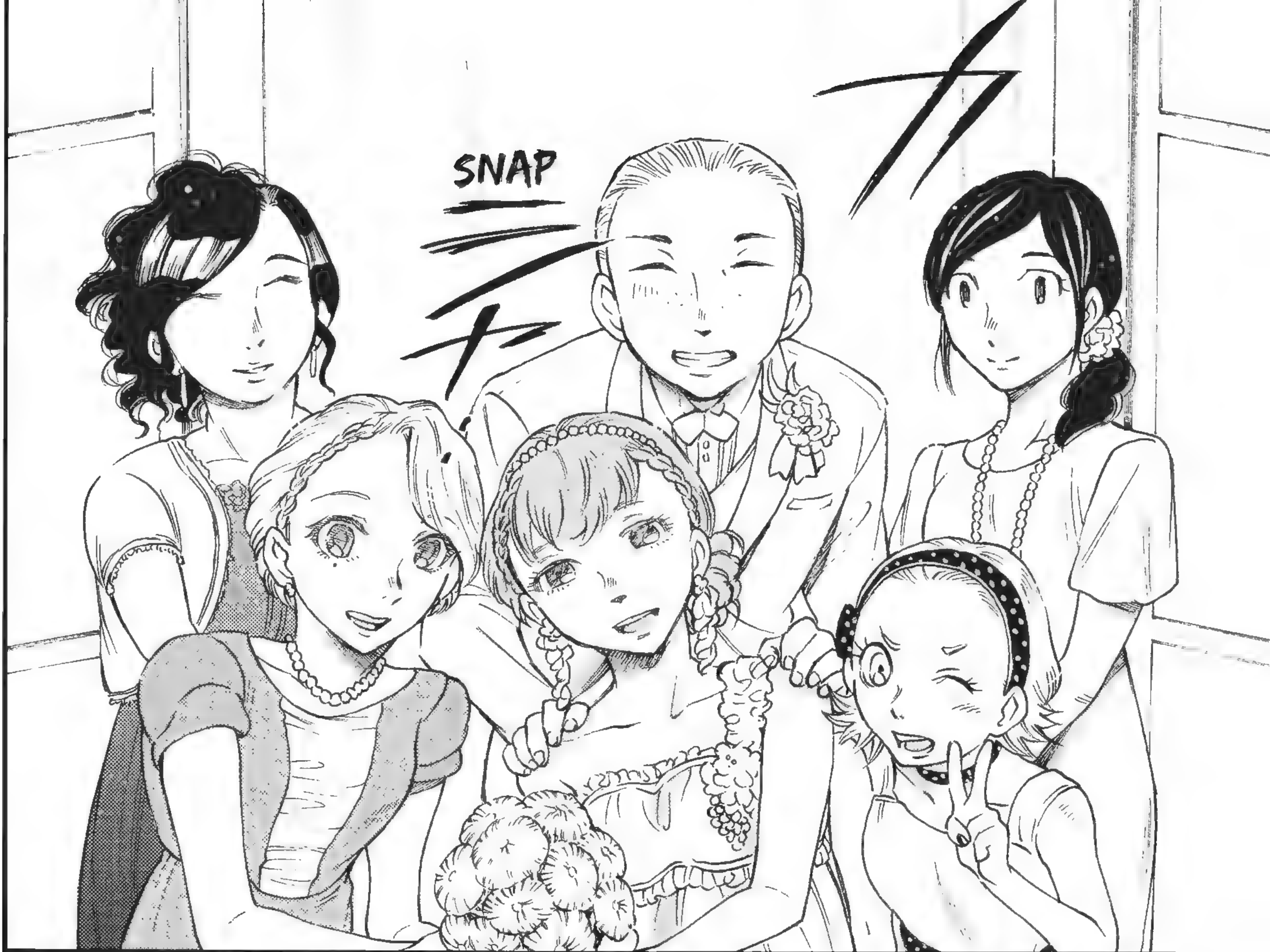


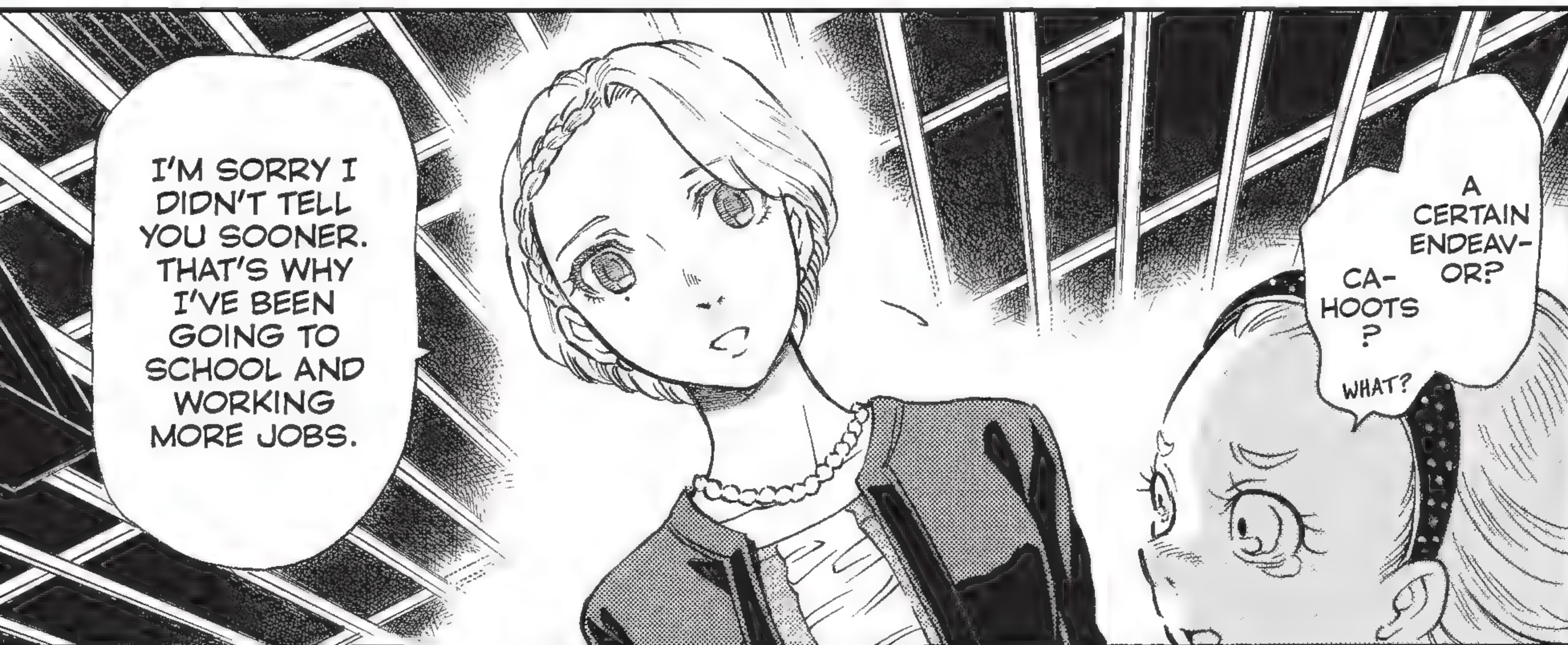
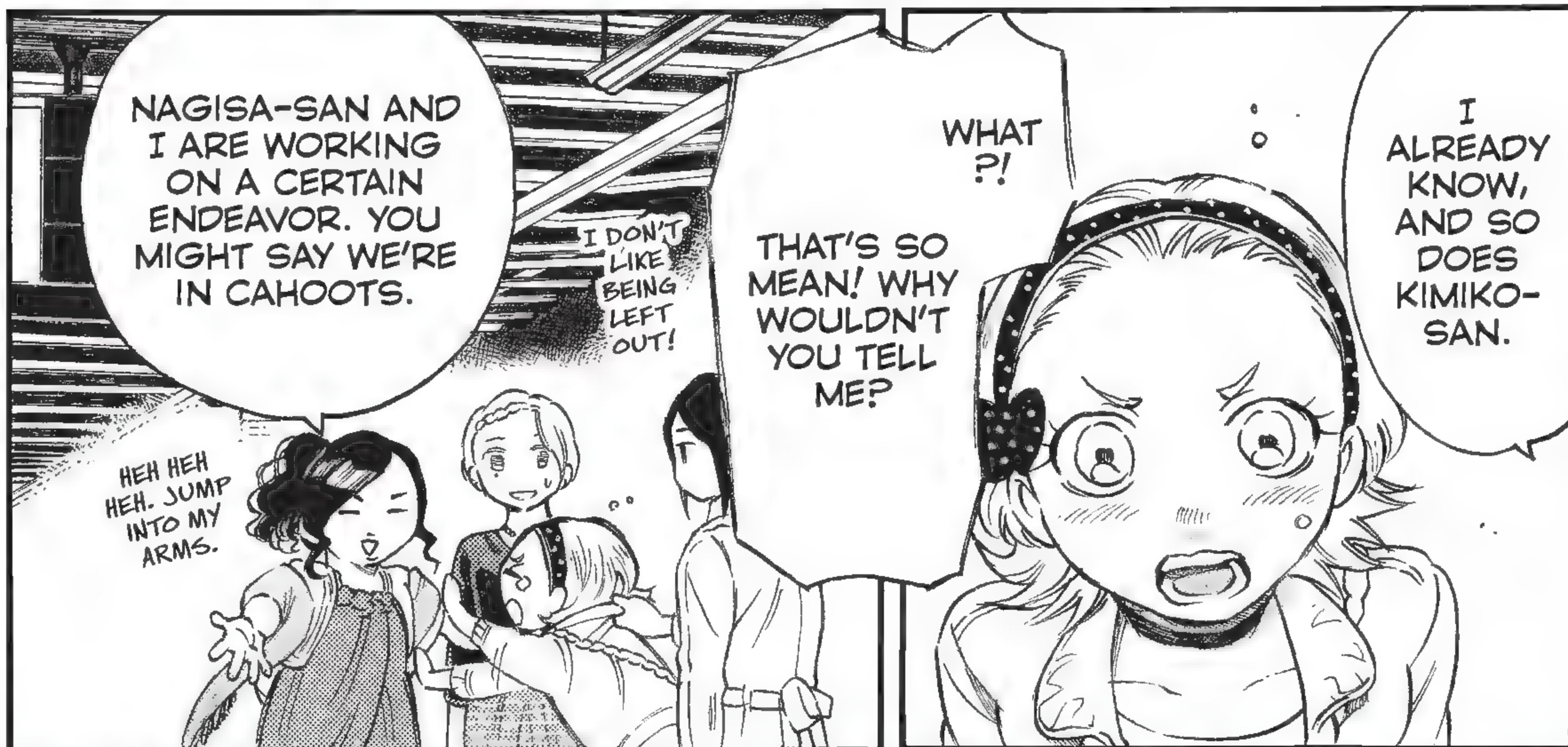
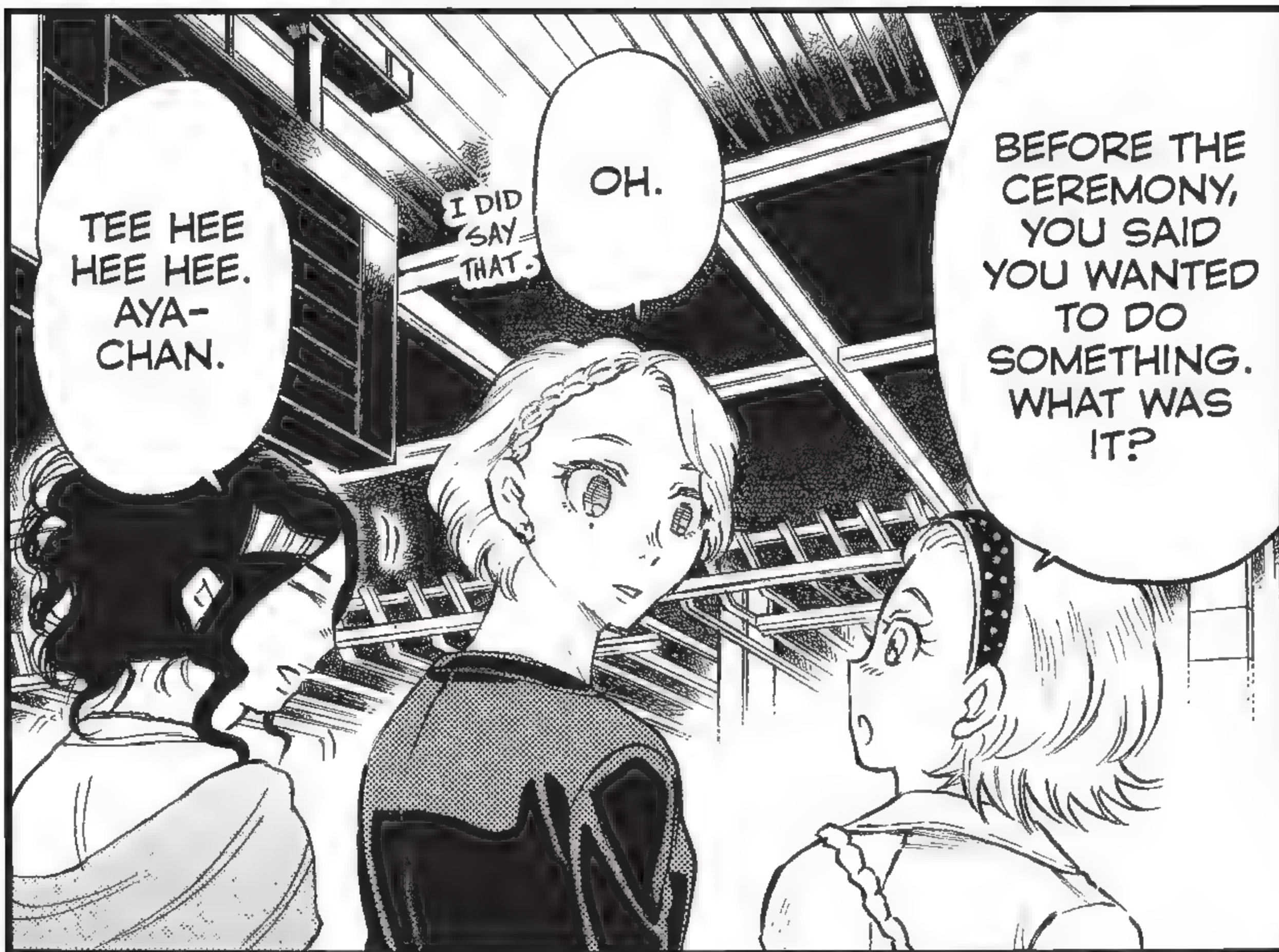
I'LL
ALWAYS
BE ON
YOUR
SIDE.

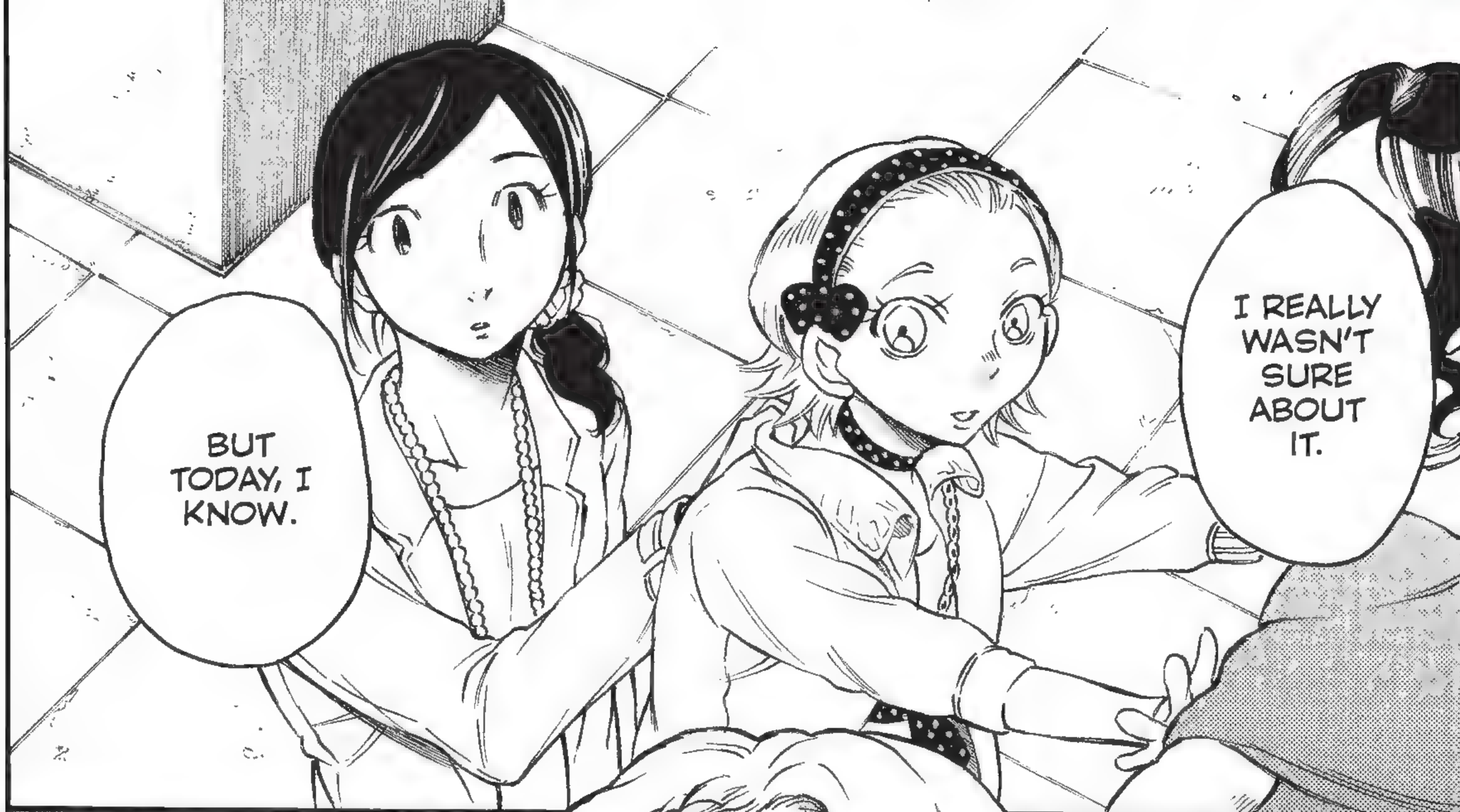


OKAY,
EVERY-
ONE.

SMILE
FOR THE
CAMERA!

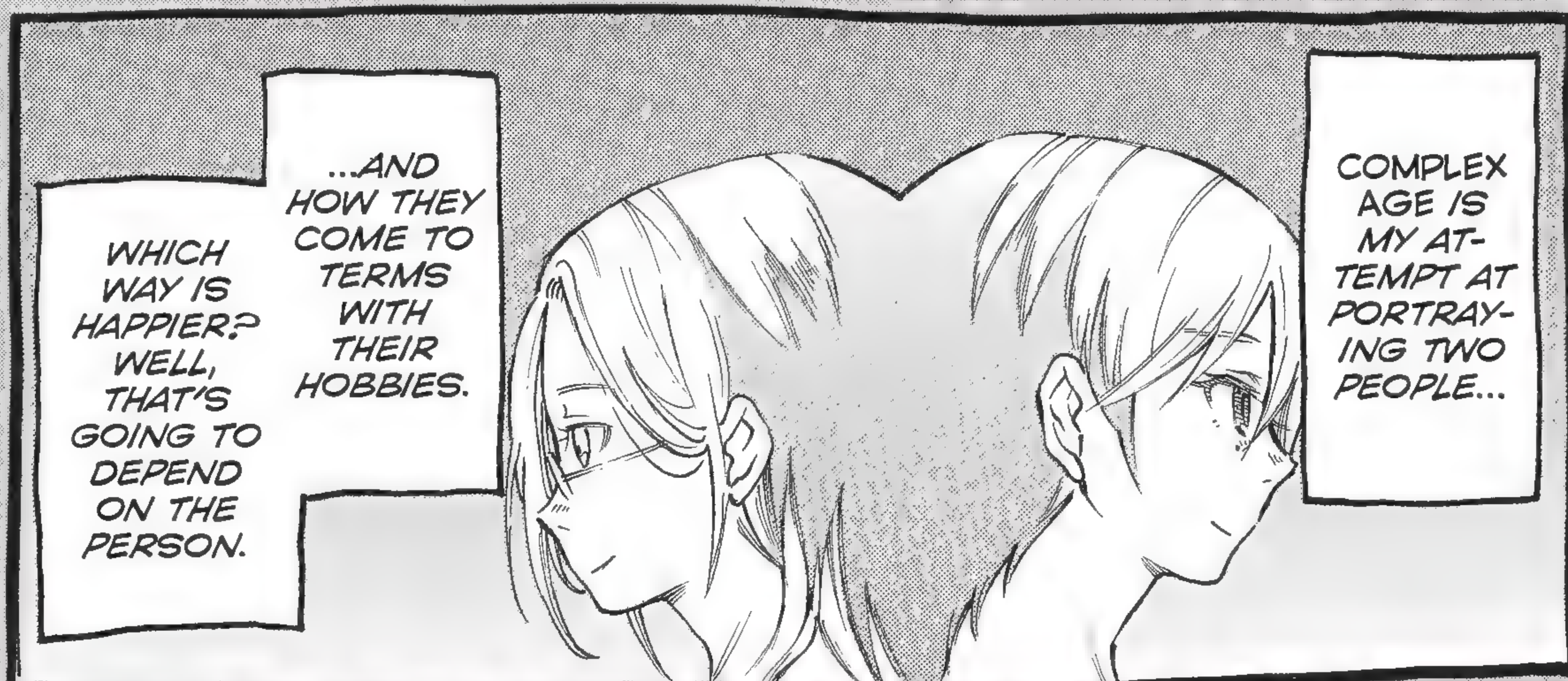








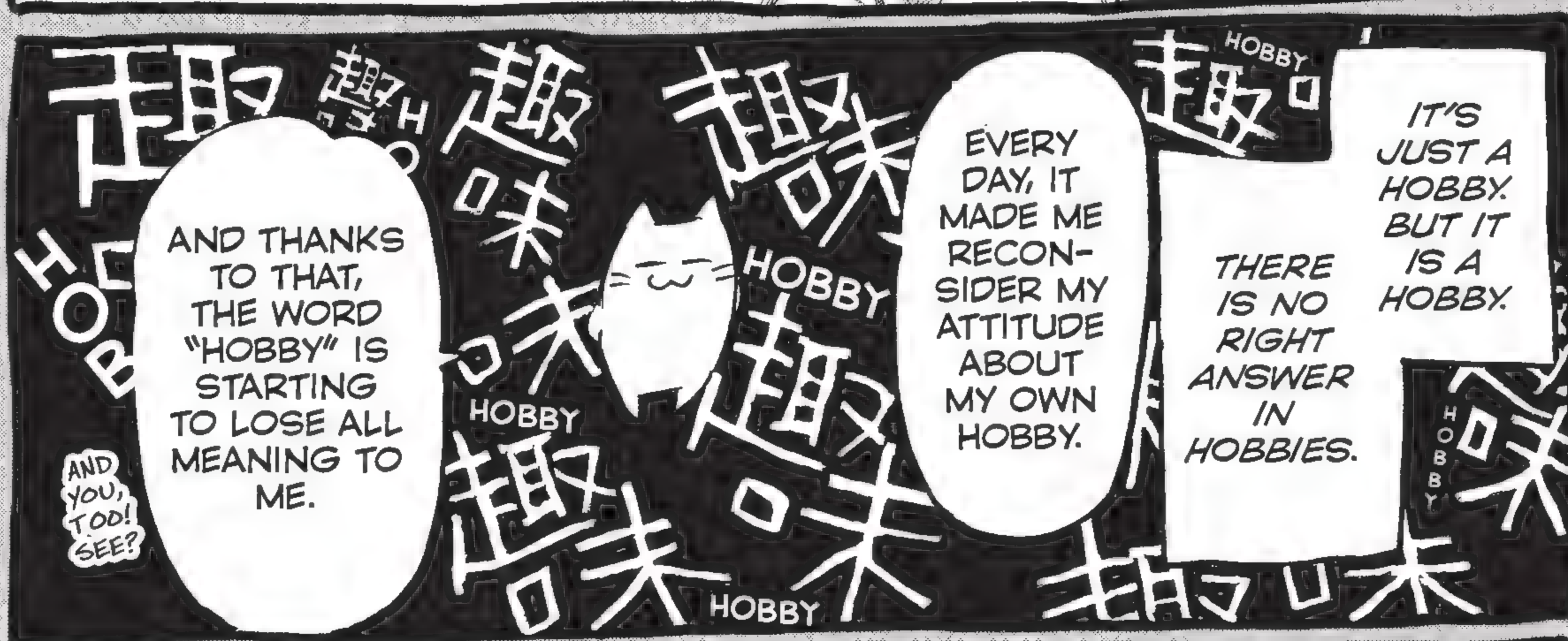
n.50 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n.51



WHICH WAY IS HAPPIER? WELL, THAT'S GOING TO DEPEND ON THE PERSON.

...AND HOW THEY COME TO TERMS WITH THEIR HOBBIES.

COMPLEX AGE IS MY ATTEMPT AT PORTRAYING TWO PEOPLE...



AND THANKS TO THAT, THE WORD "HOBBY" IS STARTING TO LOSE ALL MEANING TO ME.

AND YOU, TOO! SEE?

EVERY DAY, IT MADE ME RECONSIDER MY ATTITUDE ABOUT MY OWN HOBBY.

THERE IS NO RIGHT ANSWER IN HOBBIES.

IT'S JUST A HOBBY. BUT IT IS A HOBBY.



YOU HAVE MY SINCEREST THANKS FOR READING.

ANYWAY, WITH SUPPORT FROM MY READERS, I MADE IT TO THE END.

LET US MEET AGAIN SOMEDAY.

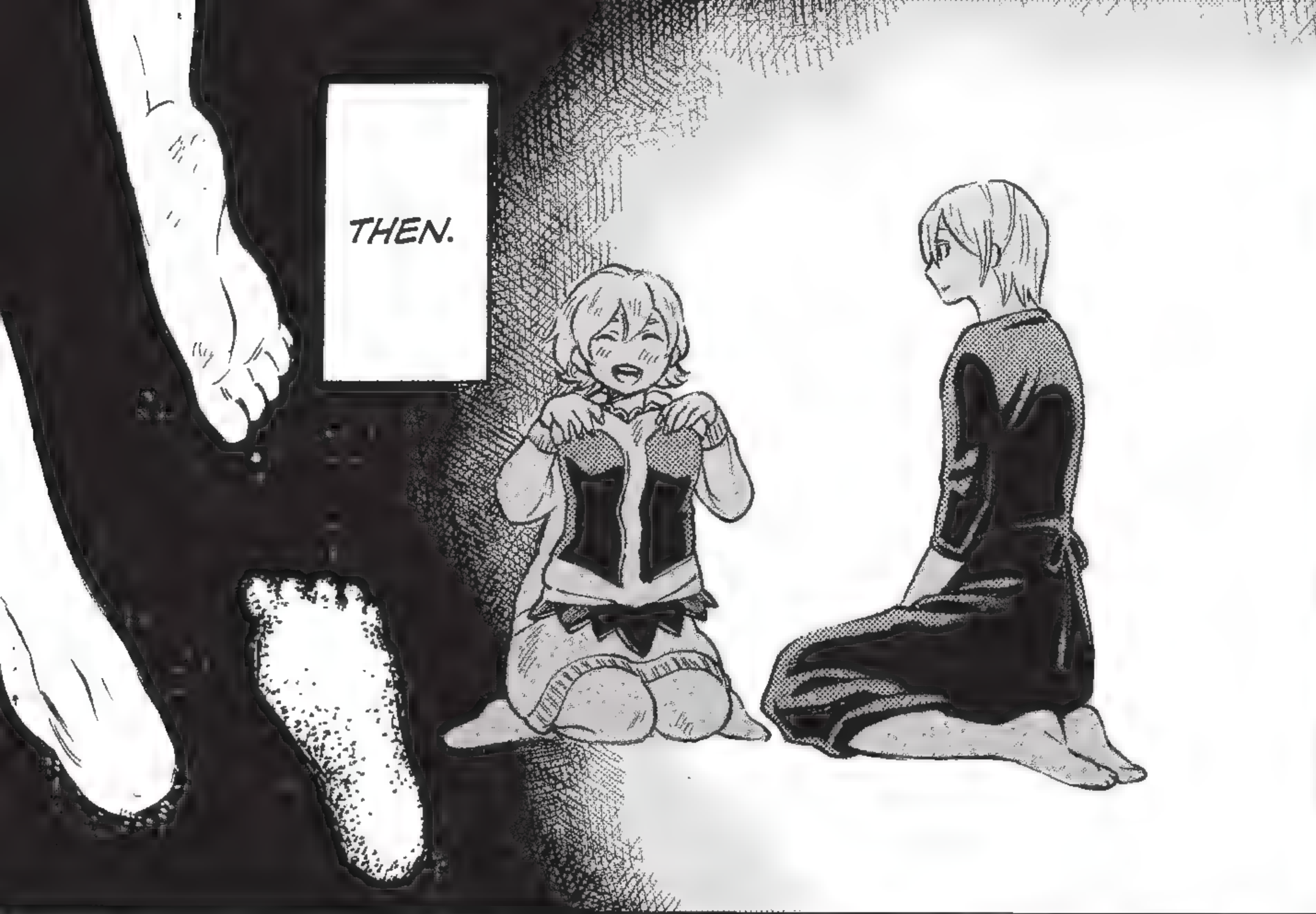


I'VE NEVER DRAWN A HEROINE AS TOUGH AND UN-ADORABLE AS NAGISA.

WELL, NAGISA HAS COME TO HER OWN TERMS. WHAT KIND OF LIFE WILL SHE LEAD NOW?

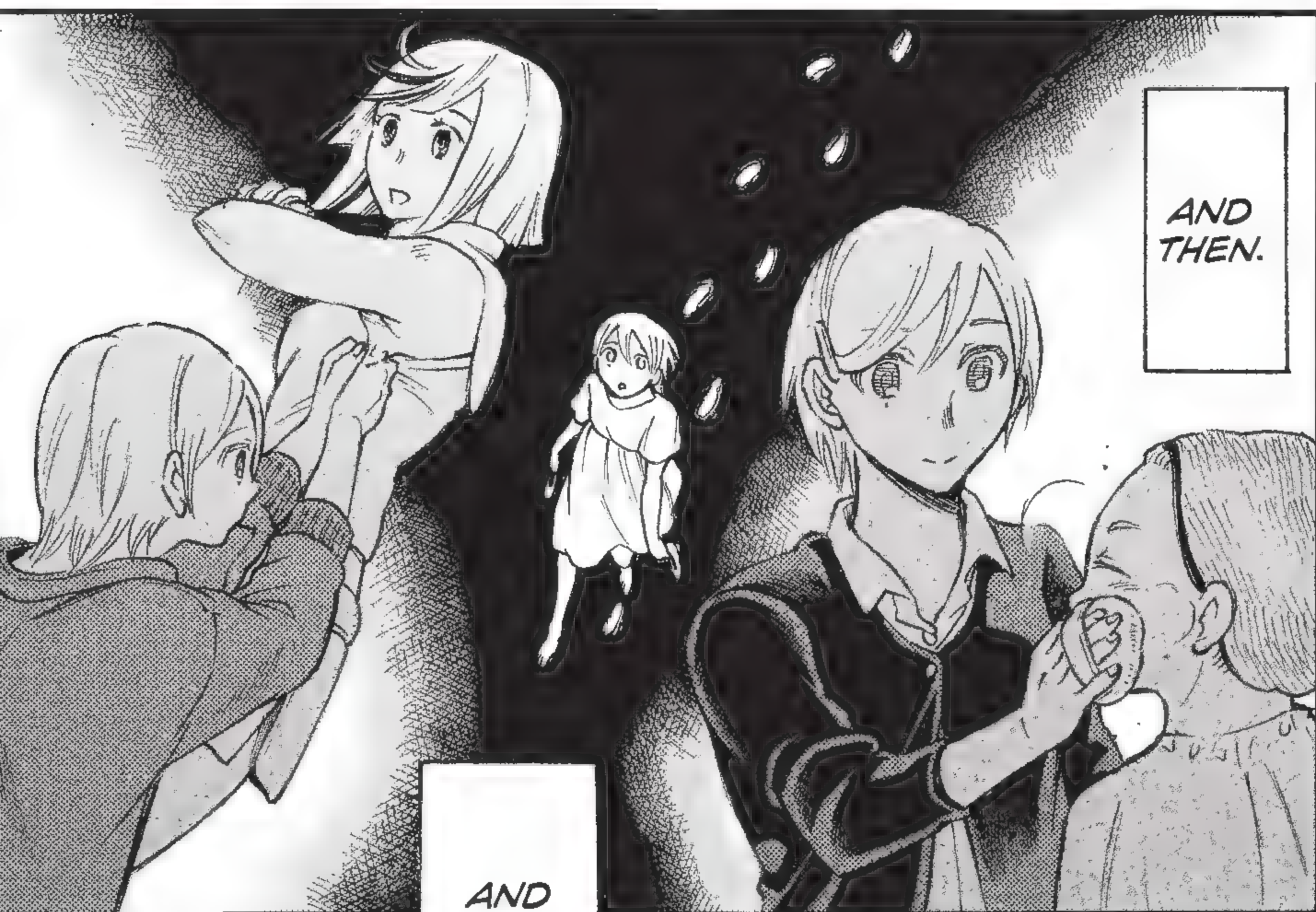
SHE WAS REALLY DIFFICULT TO HANDLE...

BUT WE MAINTAINED A GOOD DISTANCE.



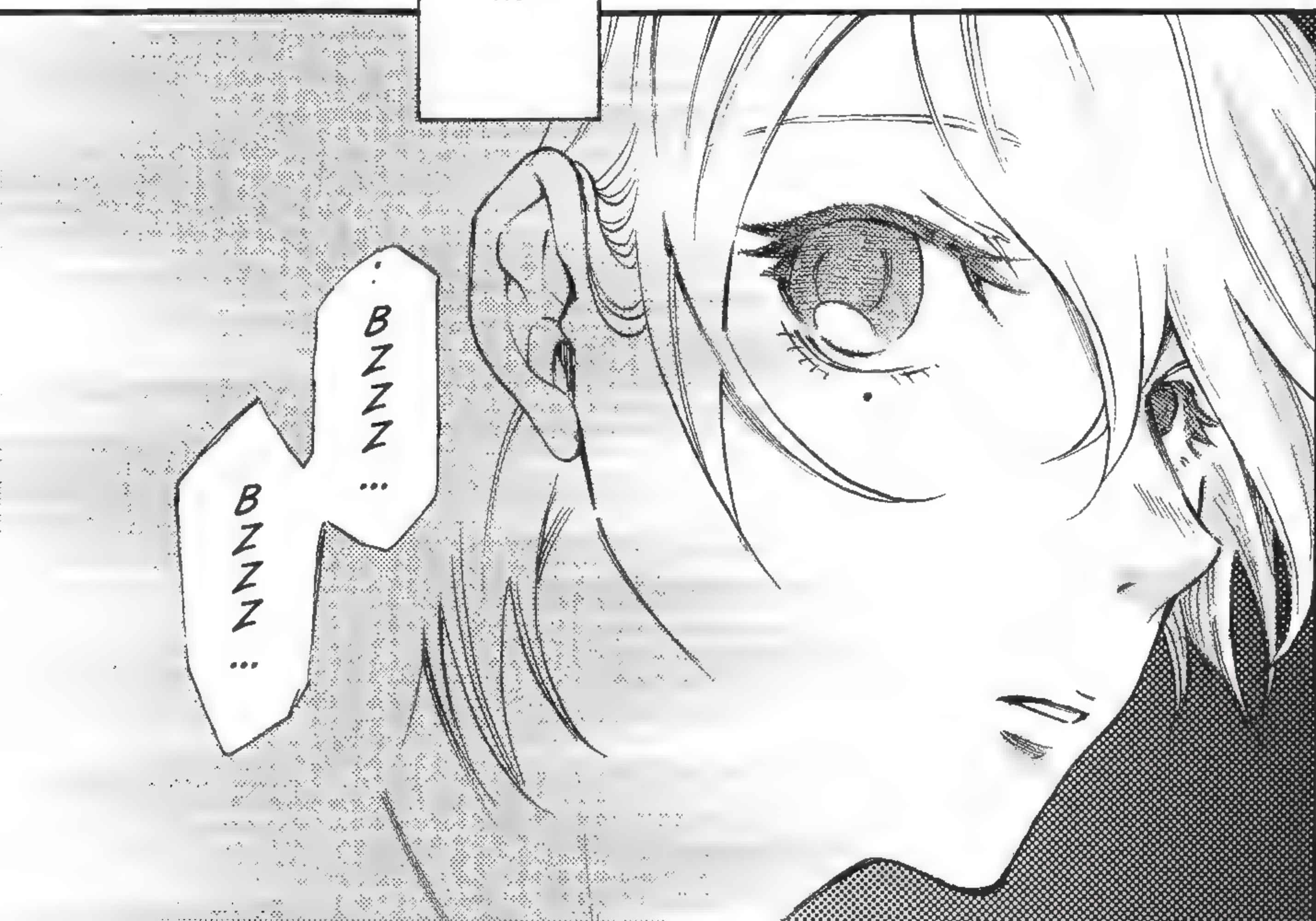
THEN.

THINKING
BACK,
MAYBE
I WAS
ALWAYS
LIKE THIS.



AND
THEN.

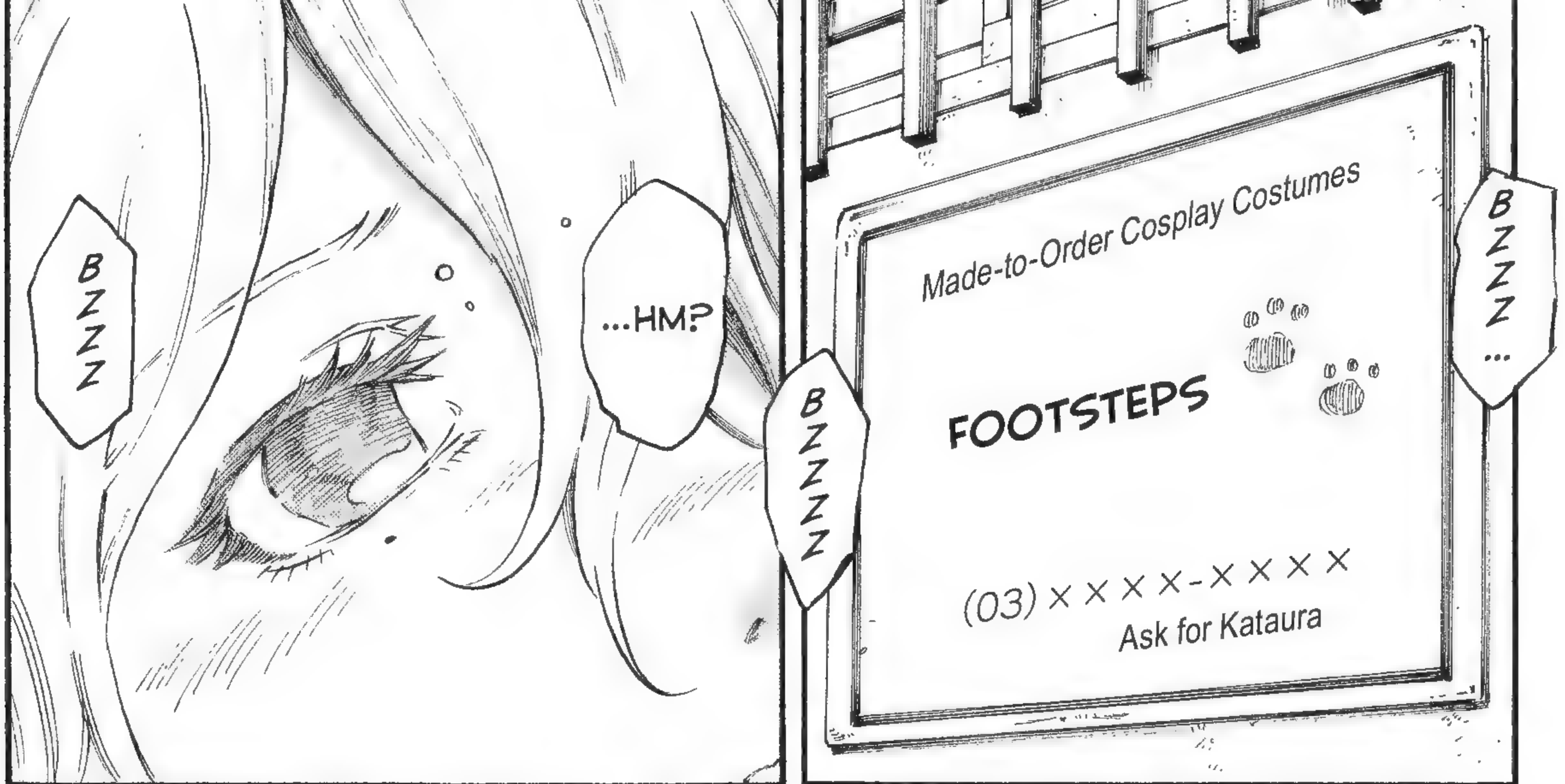
AND
...

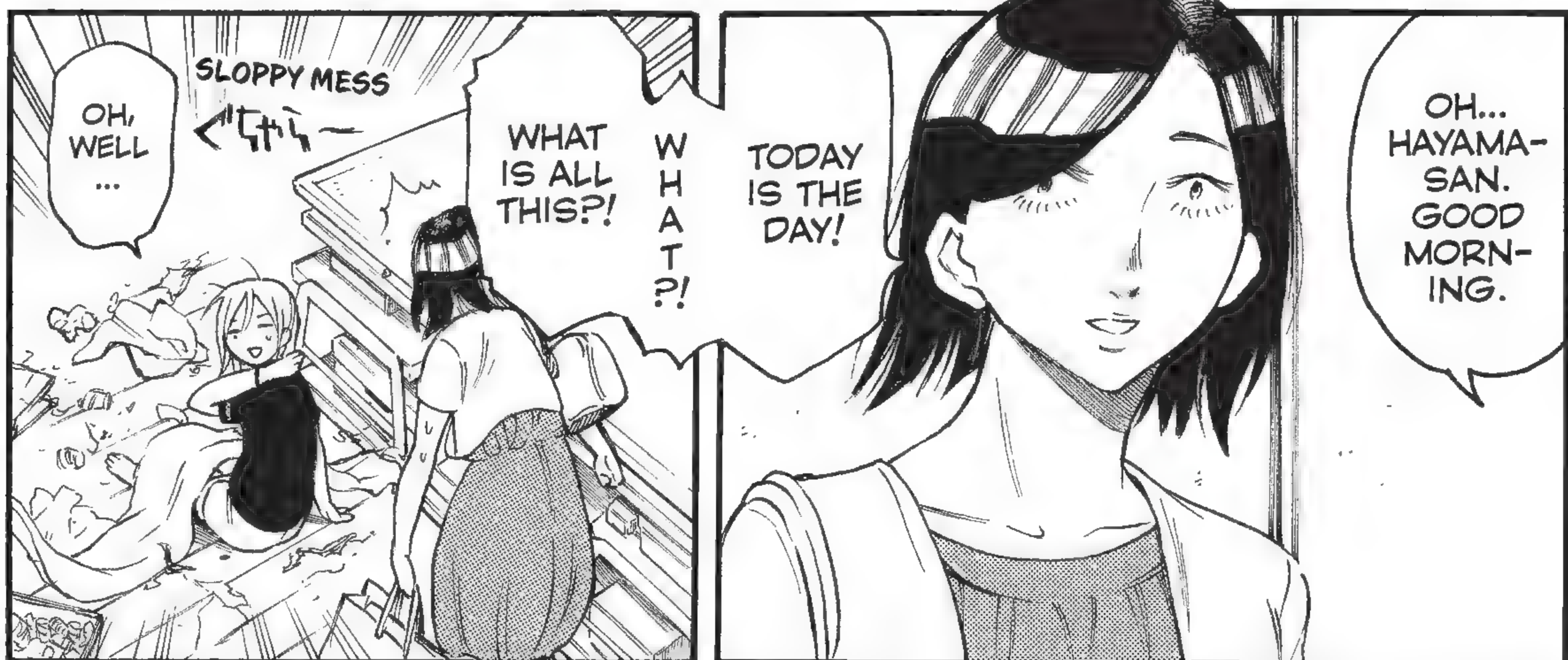
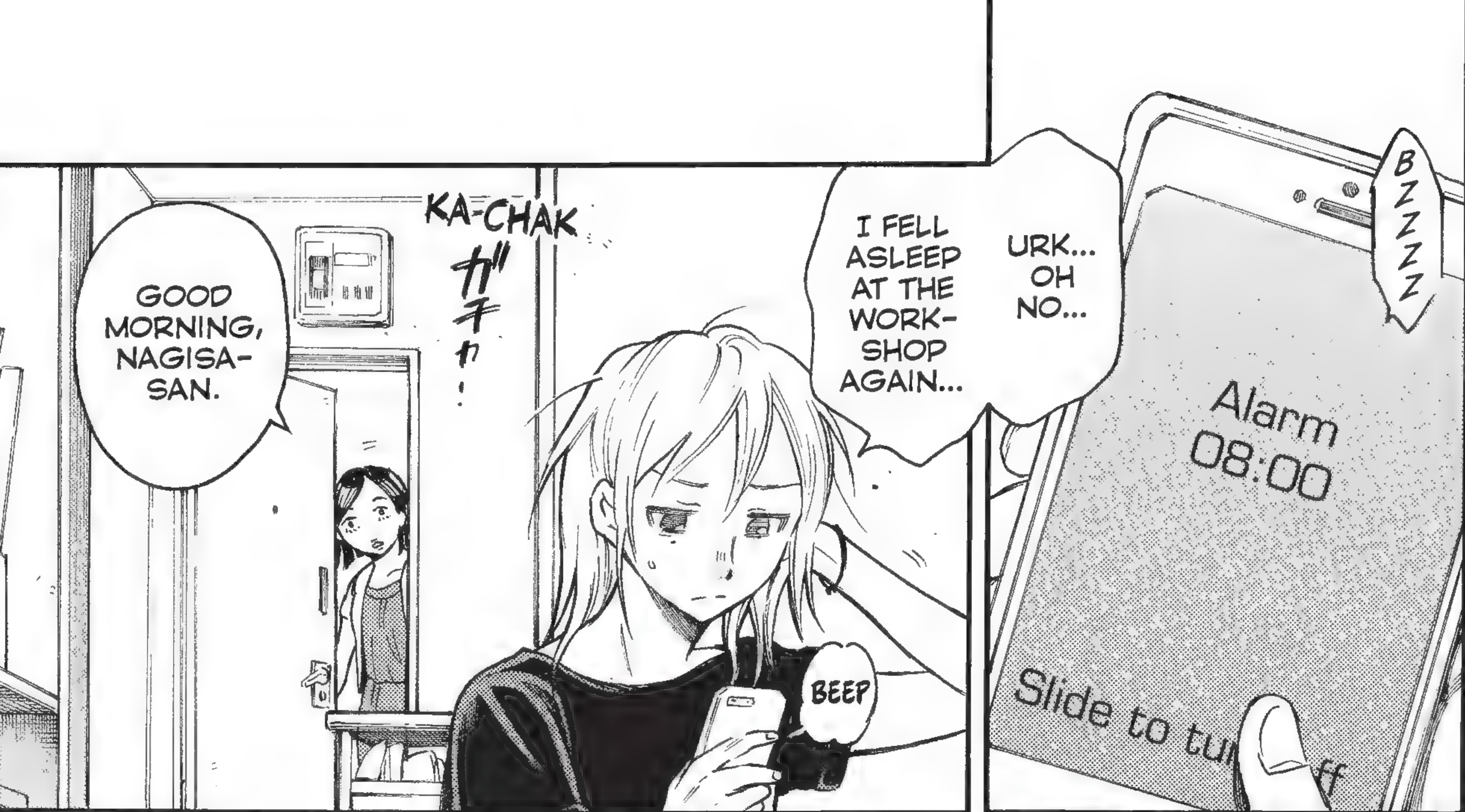


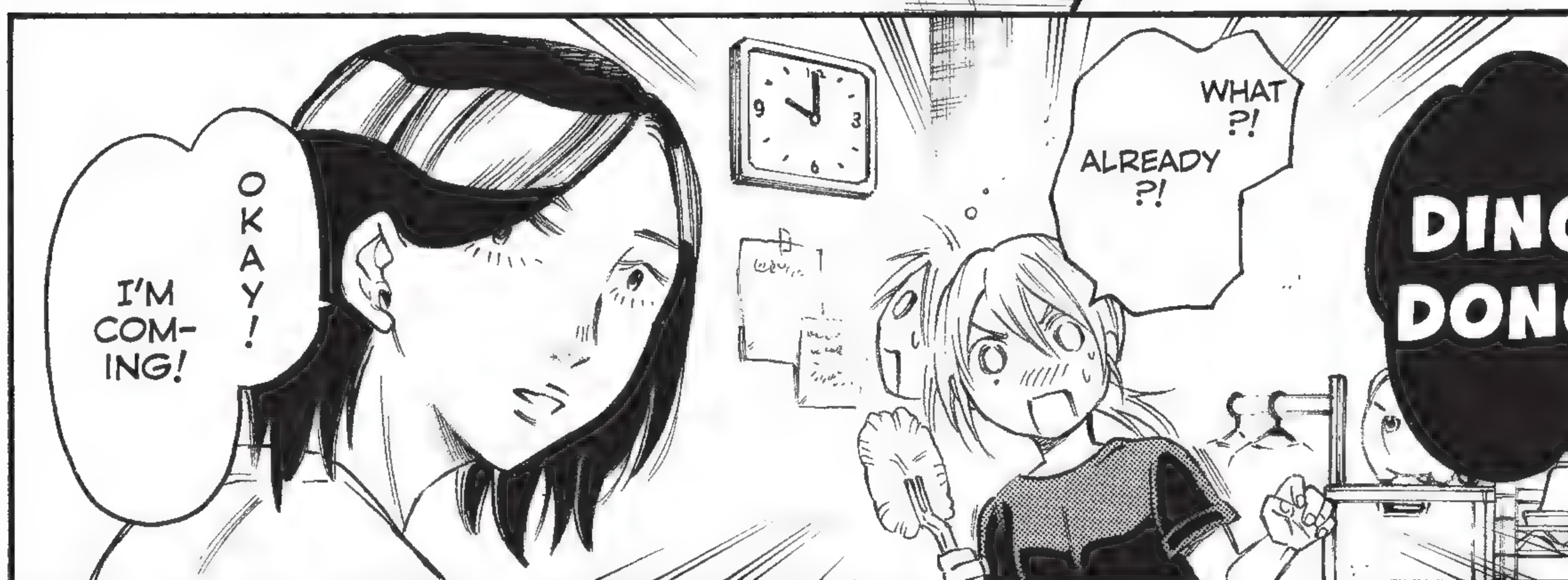
BZZZ
...

BZZZ
...











Made-to-Order Costumes **FOOTSTEPS**

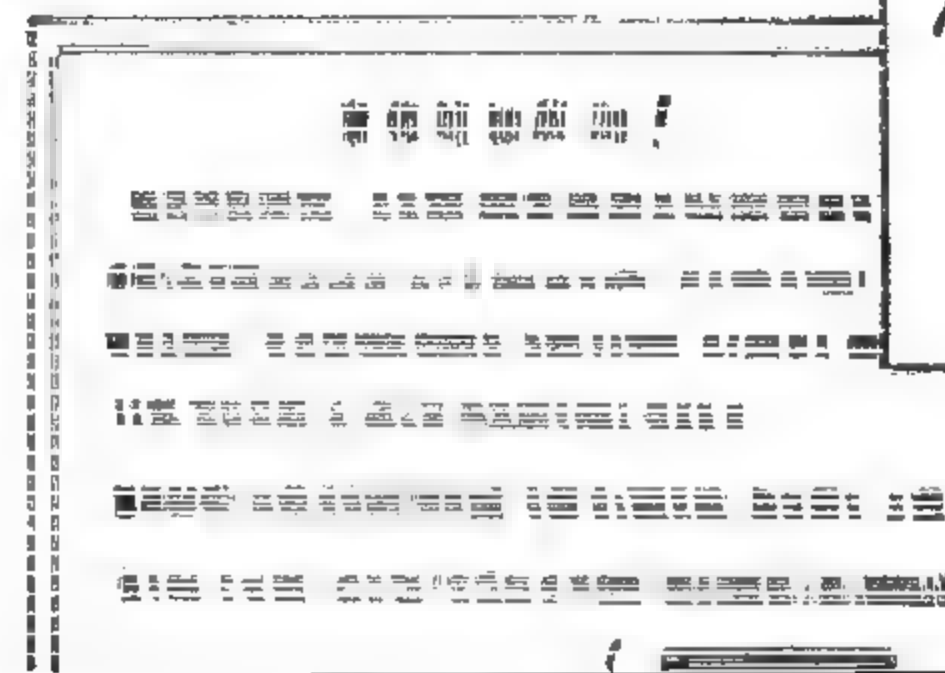
(03) XXXX-XX
Representative

AND
TODAY
...

have
official
use for
logical
ng Hood
★
Ururu.



I accept
orders for
original
costumes,
too.



AND
BUILT UP
A COS-
TUME-
MAKING
BUSI-
NESS.

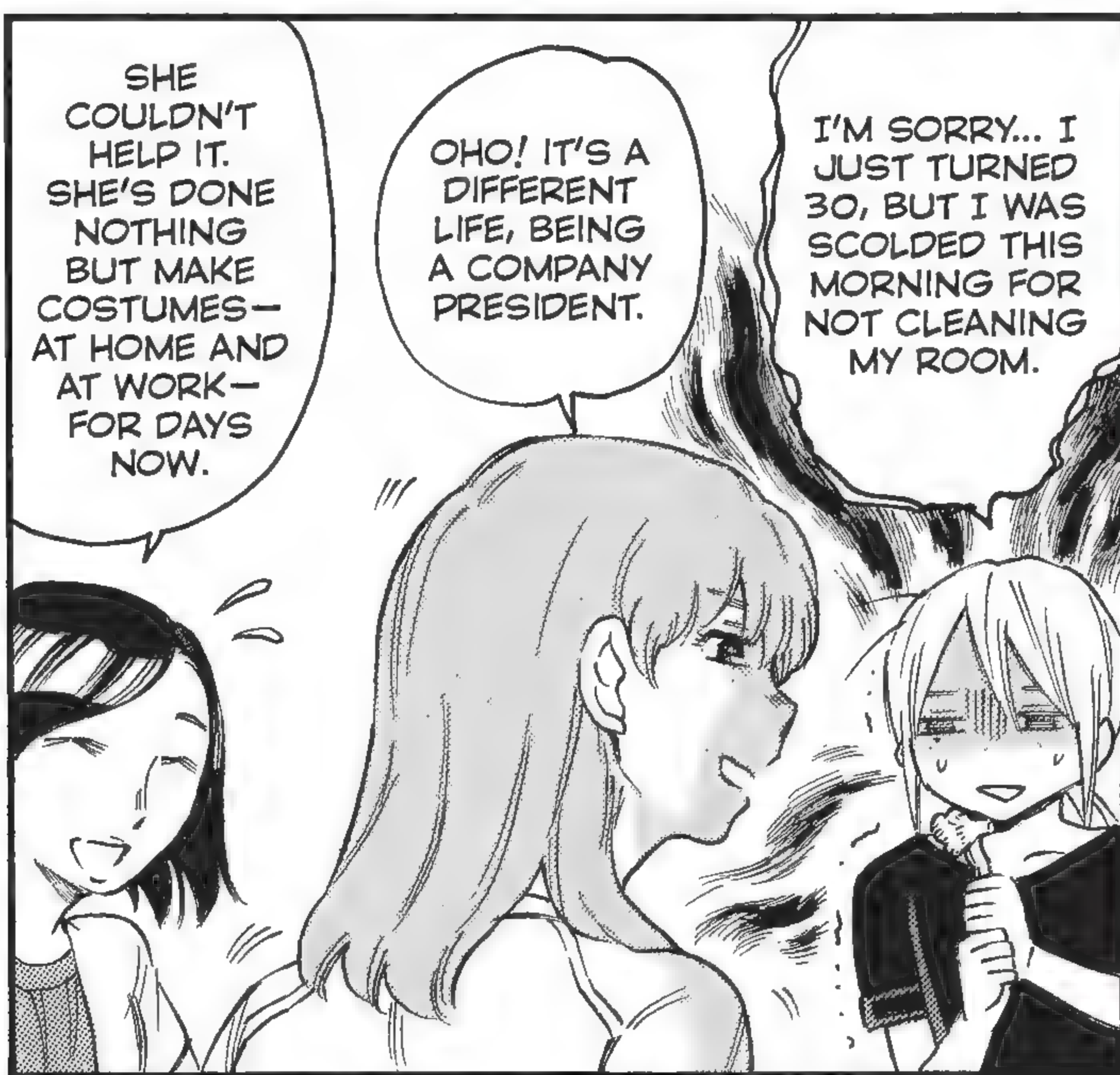
...TO NAGISA
AND HAYAMA-
SAN'S NEW
BUSINESS...



WELL
THEN...

...WE
OPEN FOR
BUSINESS.







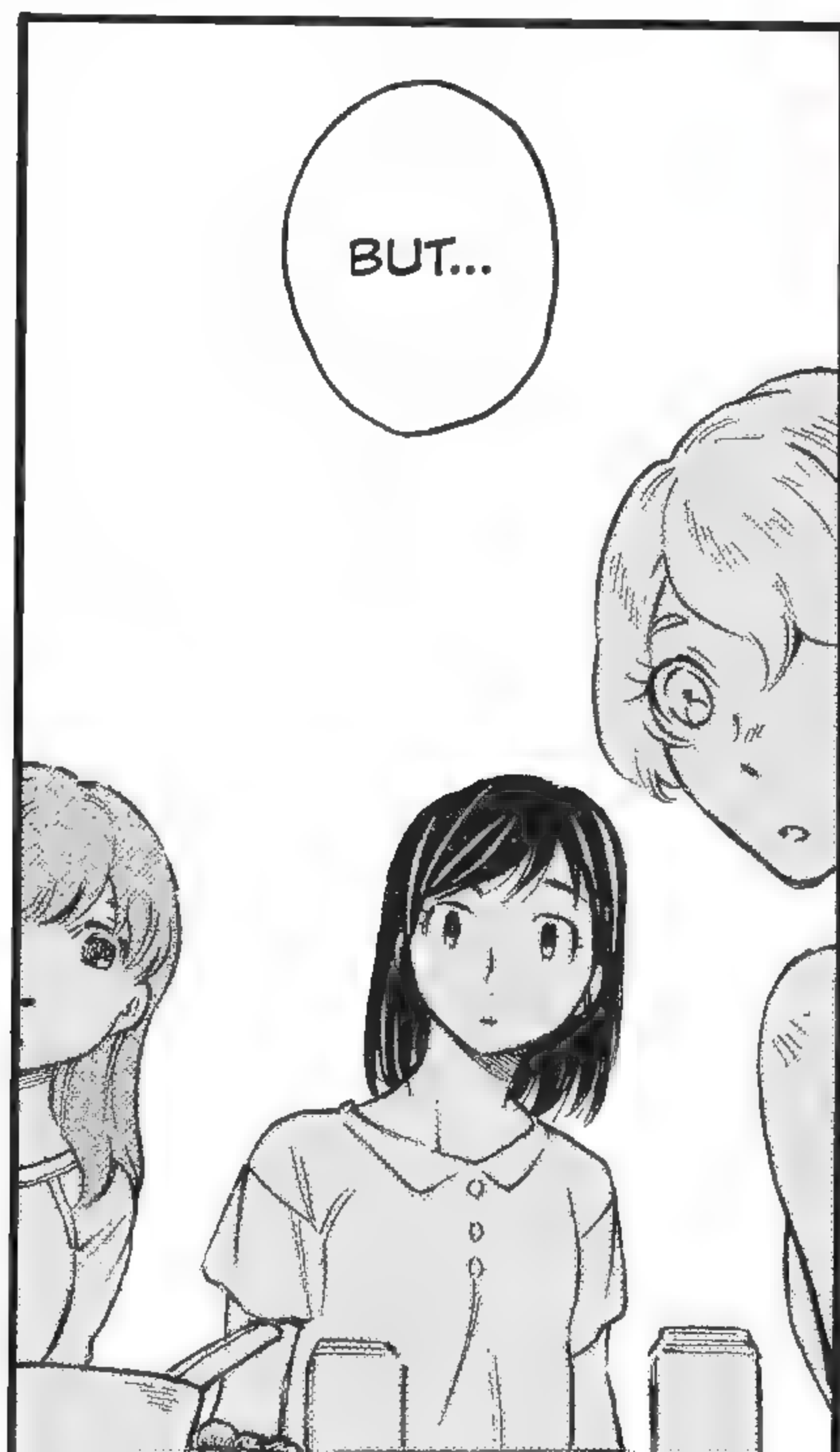


BUT I
LIKE IT.

BUT AT THE
SAME TIME,
I THINK I
LIKED MAKING
OTHER PEOPLE
INTO NEW
CHARACTERS,
TOO.



IT WAS FUN
MAKING
MYSELF INTO
SOMETHING.



BUT...



I AM
PERFECT.

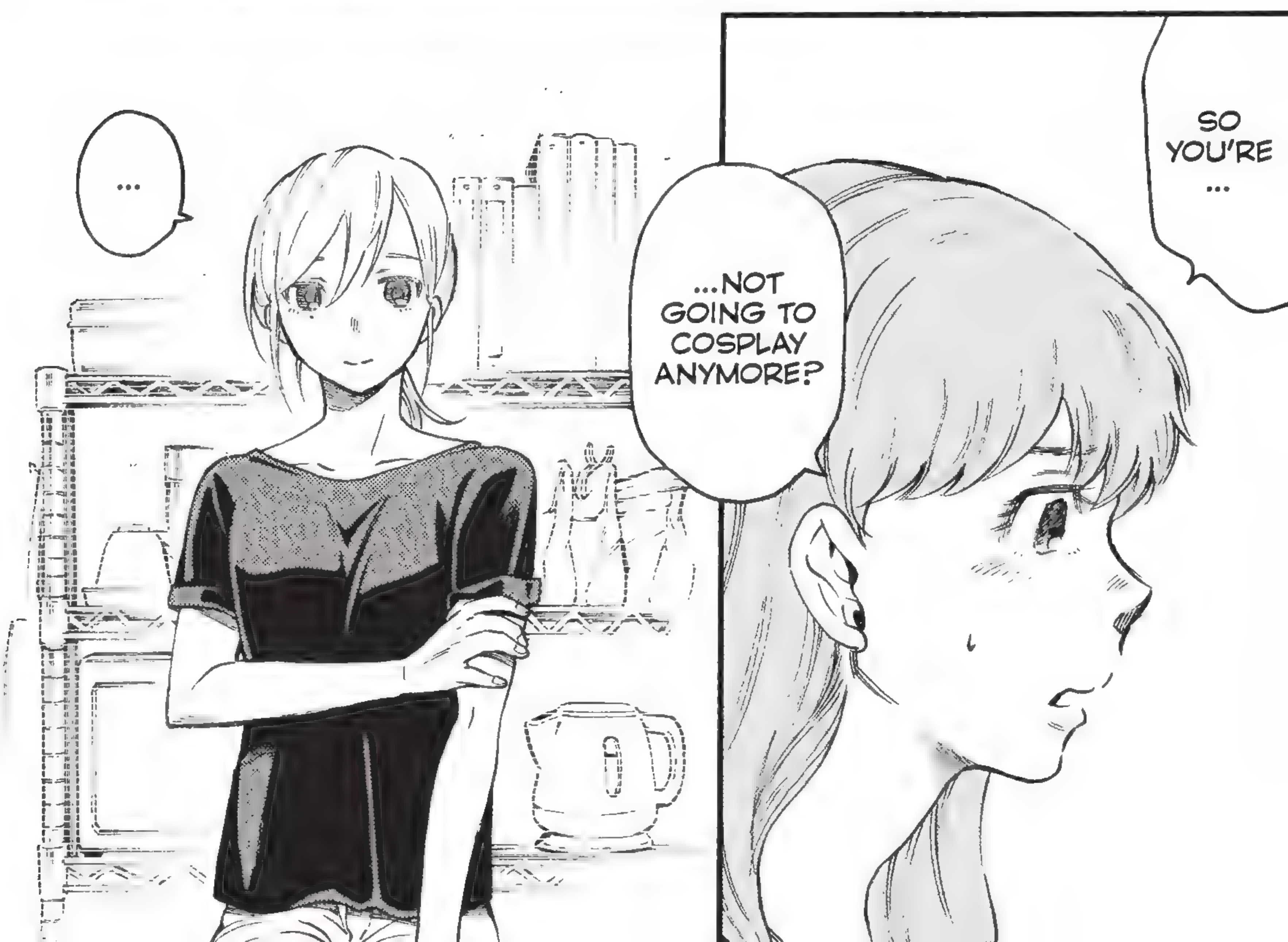
I WAS
SO JUST
FOCUSED
ON
MYSELF...

...I NEVER
HAD TIME
TO NOTICE
BEFORE.

THAT
DAY, AT
KIMIKO'S
WEDDING.



I
KNEW.



...

...NOT
GOING TO
COSPLAY
ANYMORE?

SO
YOU'RE
...



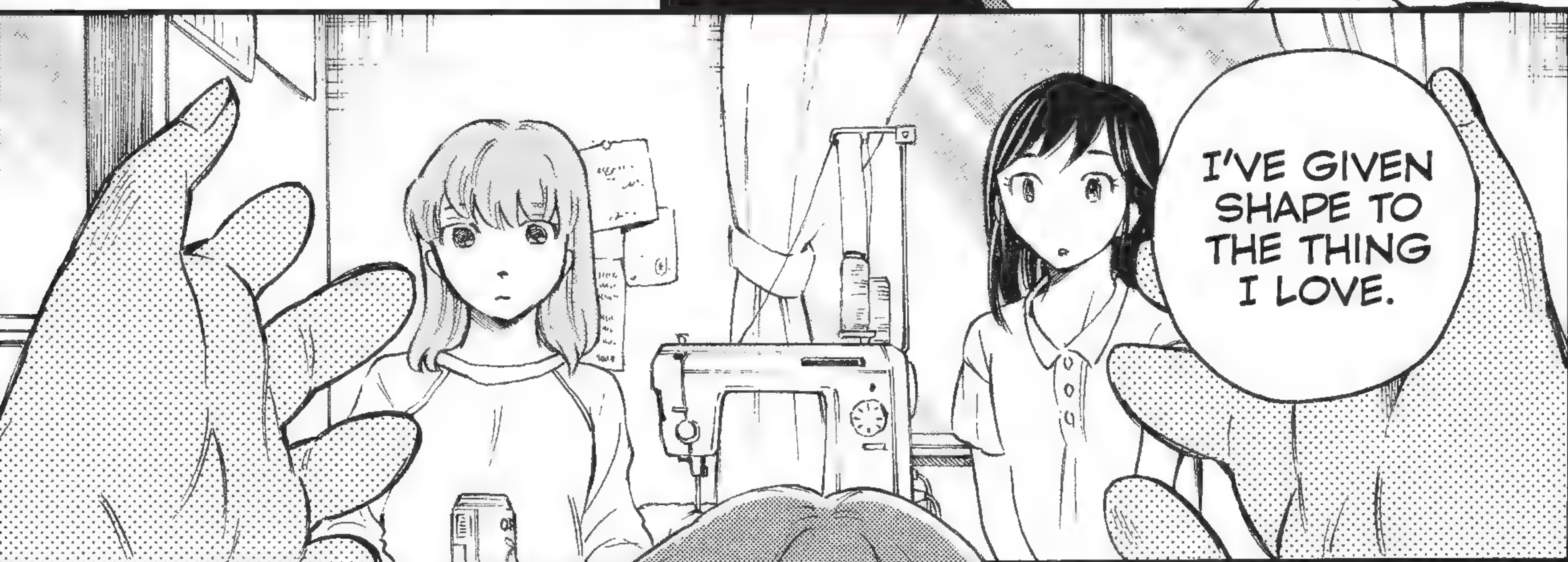
SO I'M
JUST
GOING
TO
FOCUS
ON
THAT.

I DON'T
KNOW
HOW
THINGS
ARE
GOING
TO GO
WITH MY
BUSINESS.



RIGHT
NOW...

I DON'T
KNOW.



I'VE GIVEN
SHAPE TO
THE THING
I LOVE.



AND
I NEED
TO TAKE
GOOD
CARE OF
IT.



IF THAT'S
YOUR WAY OF
HANGING ON
TO COSPLAY,
I SAY GO
FOR IT.

WELL,
WHY
NOT?

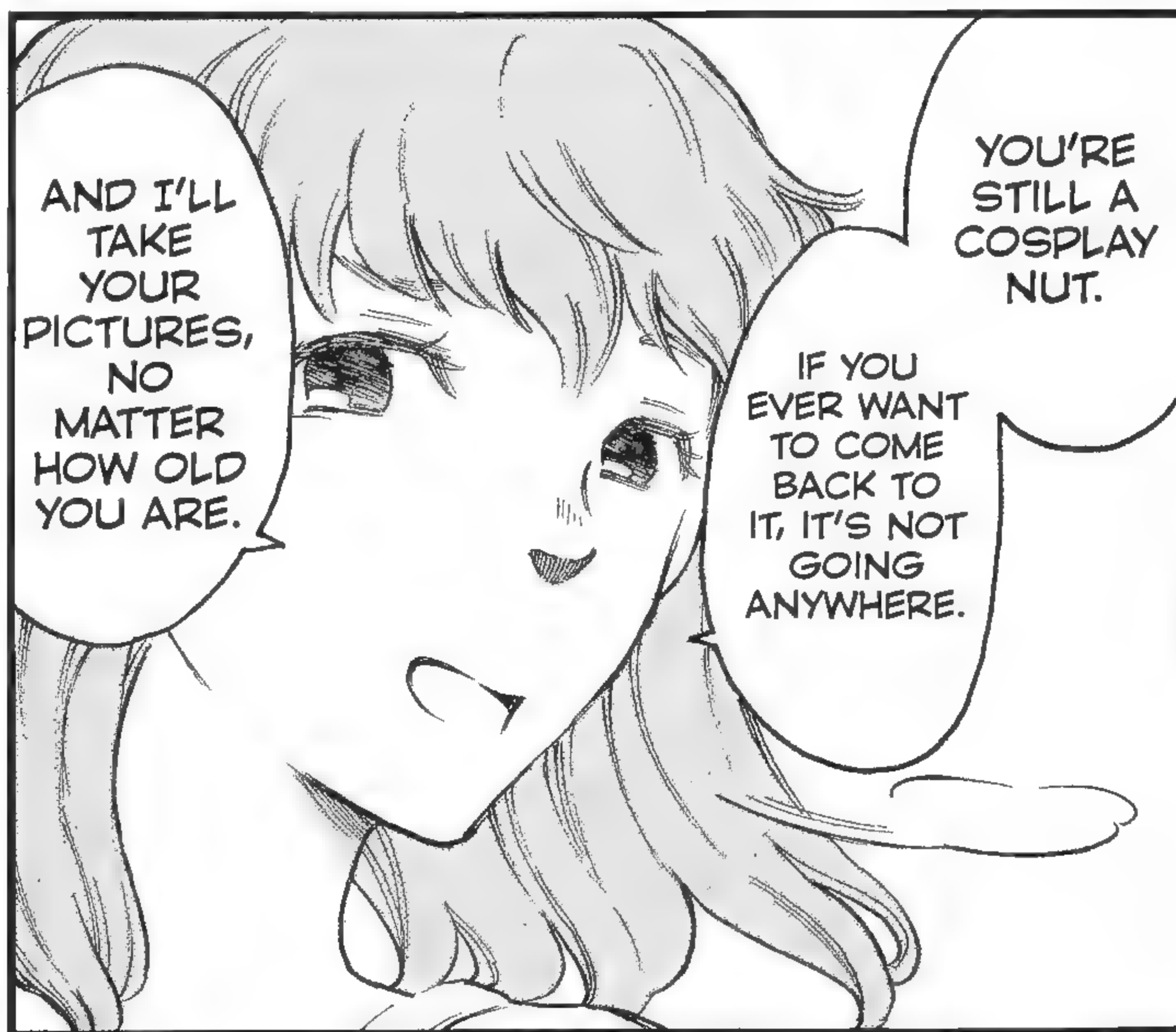
YEAH.



AND I'LL
TAKE
YOUR
PICTURES,
NO
MATTER
HOW OLD
YOU ARE.

YOU'RE
STILL A
COSPLAY
NUT.

IF YOU
EVER WANT
TO COME
BACK TO
IT, IT'S NOT
GOING
ANYWHERE.



THANKS.







...I JUST
CAN'T
SIT
STILL!

BAH



CREAK



BA-SHOOM!



SHRRY

SHRRY



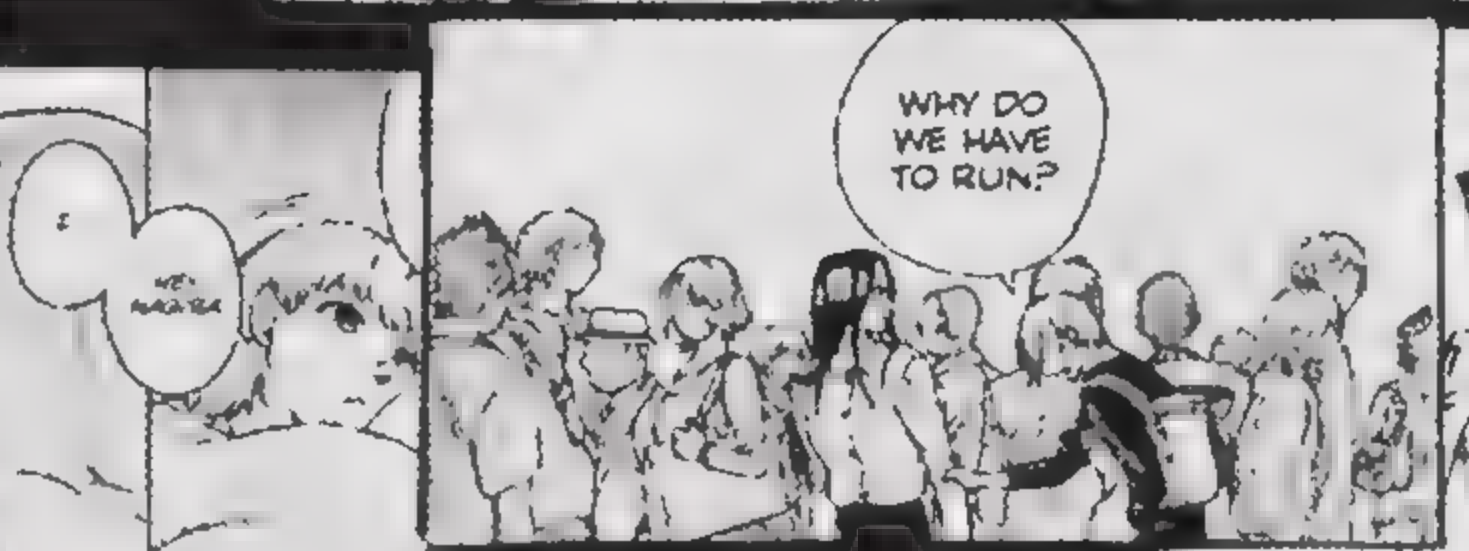
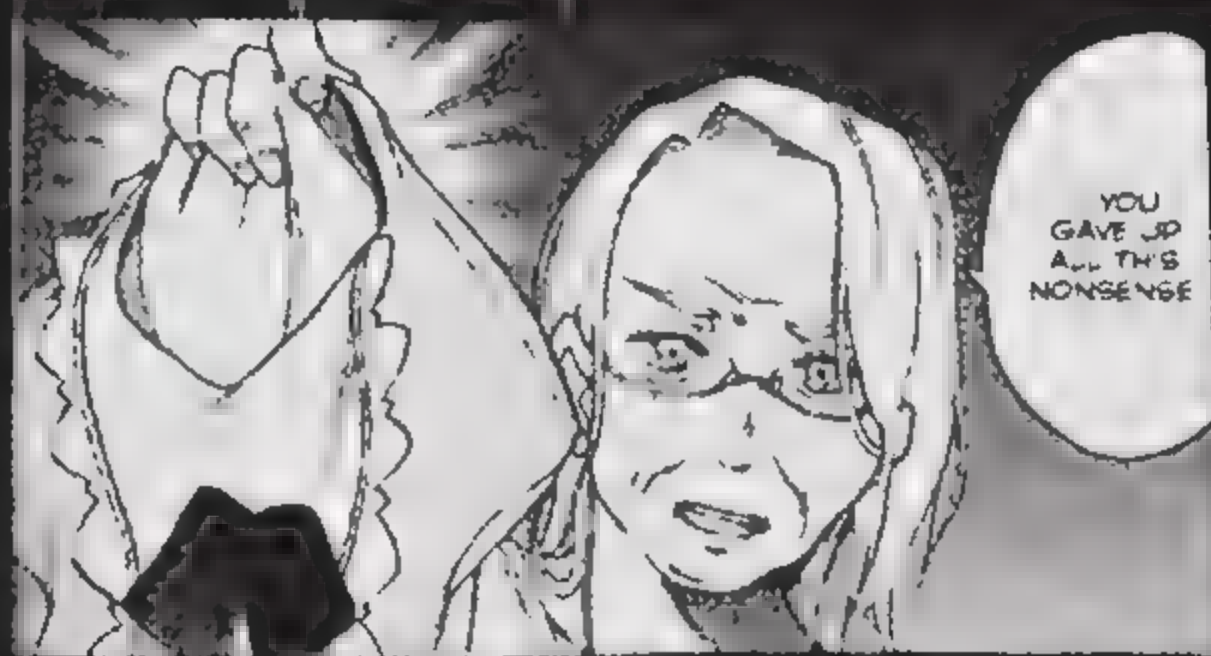
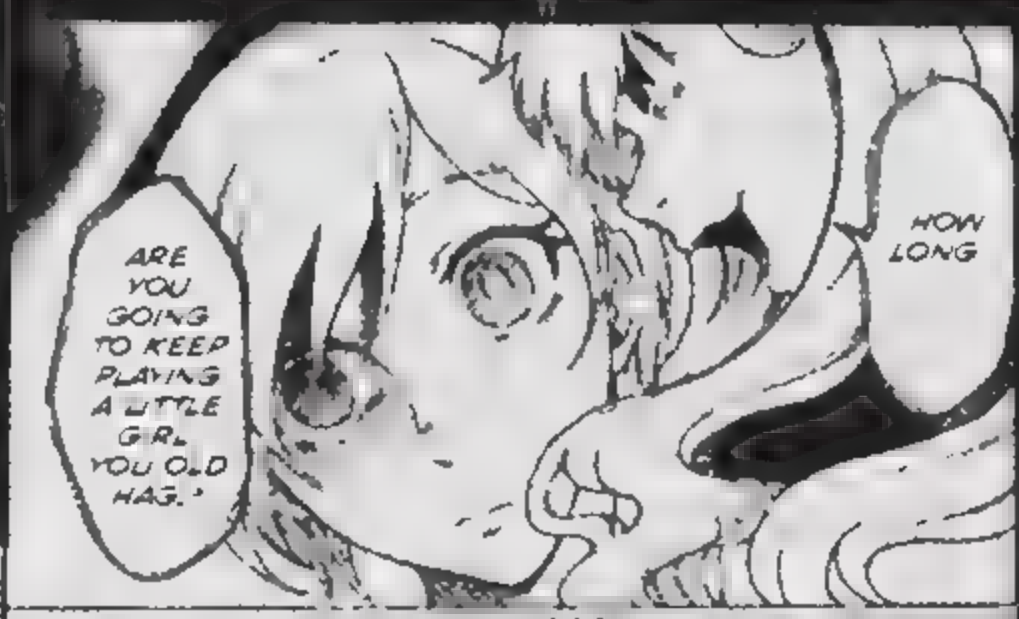
RUSTLE



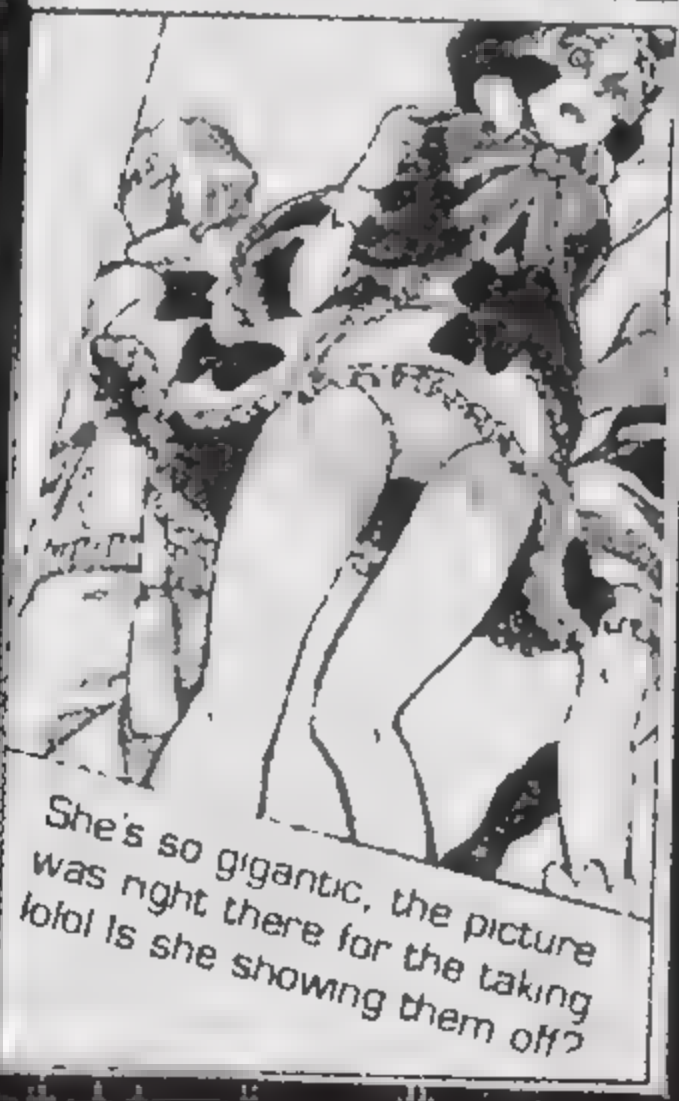
TAK
TAK

TAK
TAK
TAK

WHEN I'M
DOING THIS, IT
REALLY HITS
ME.



is too beautiful



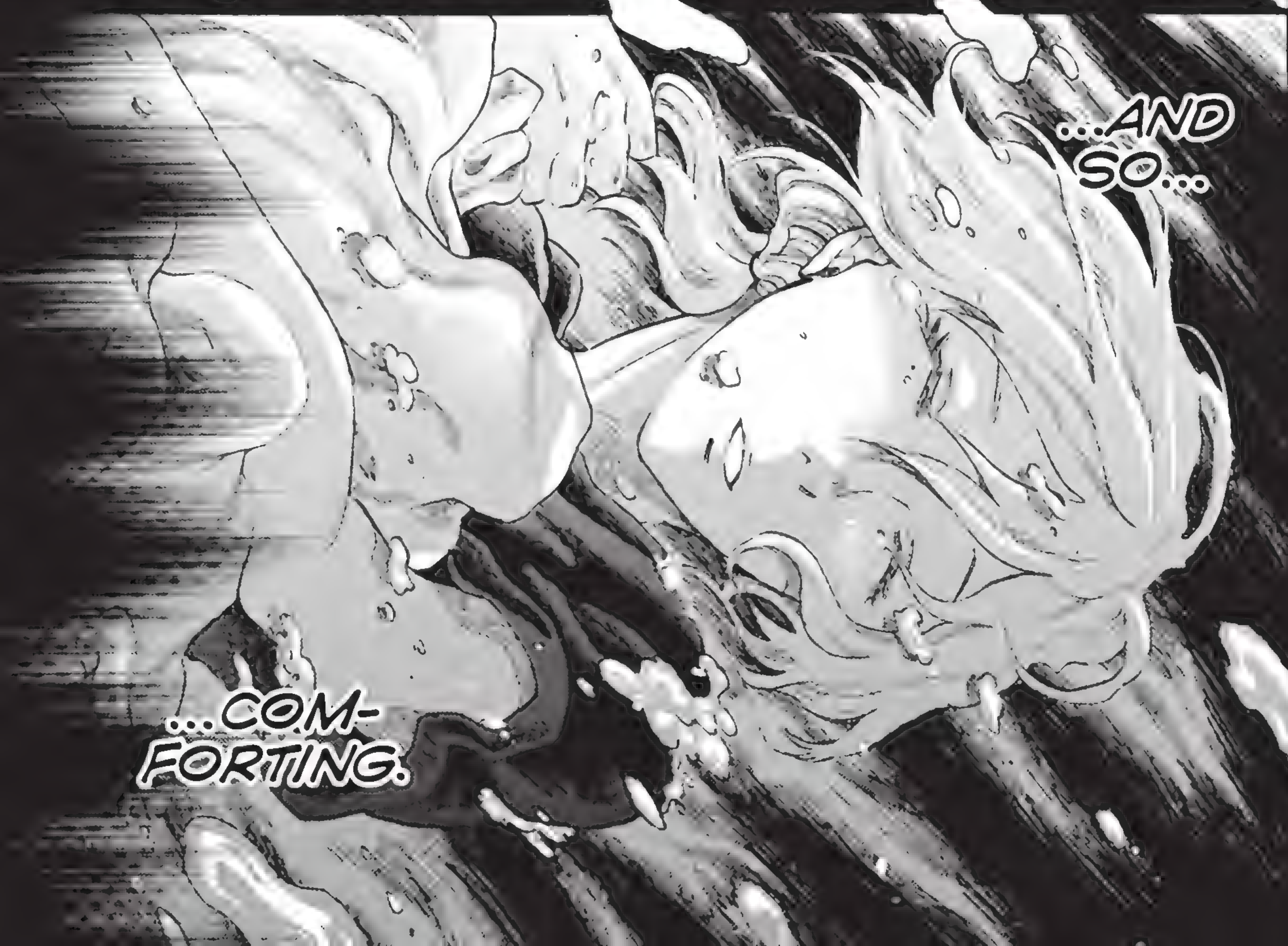
BACK
AT IT
AGAIN.

S
P
L
I
S
H

I FIND
MYSELF
HERE



IT'S
SUFFOCATING...

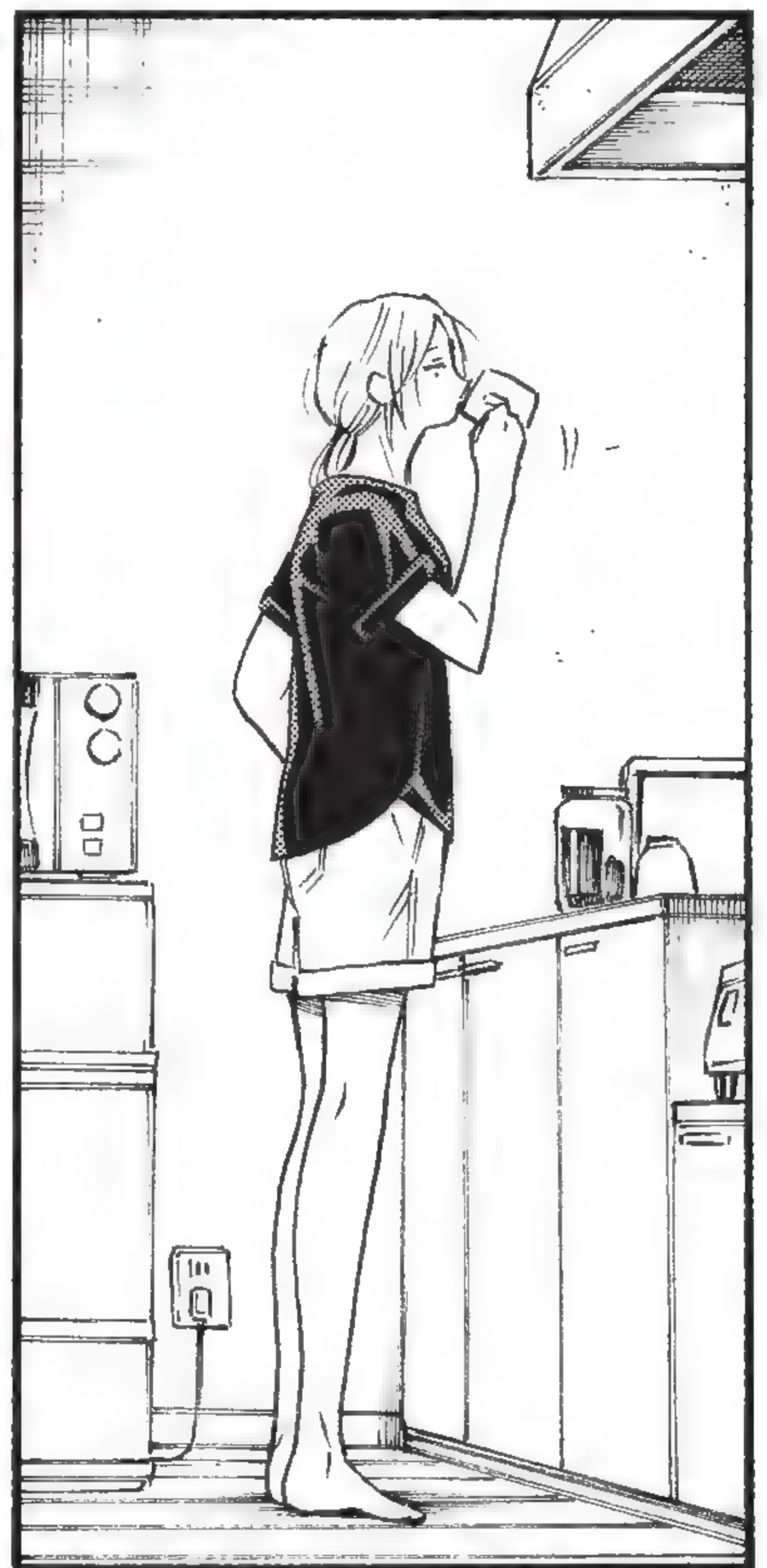
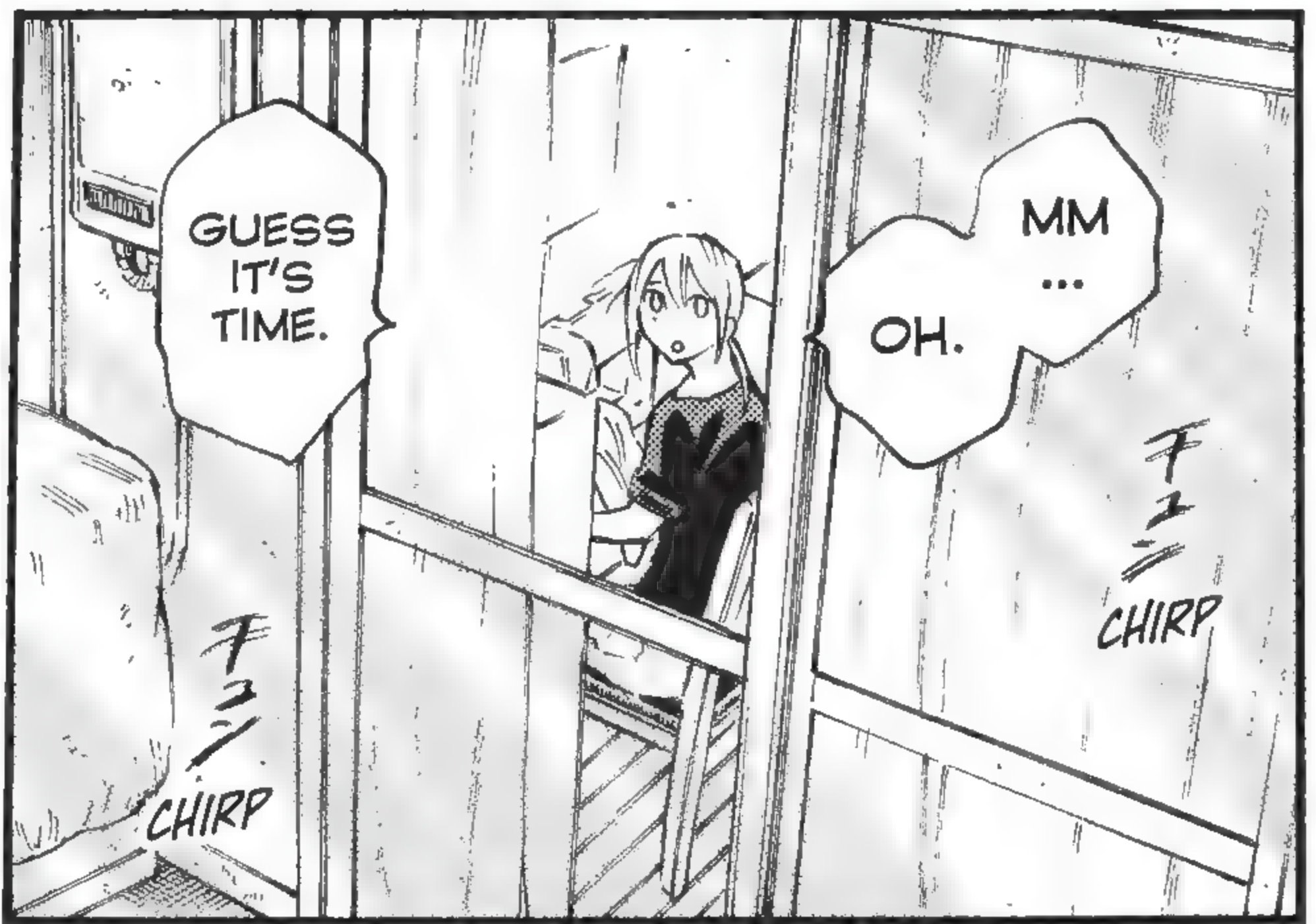


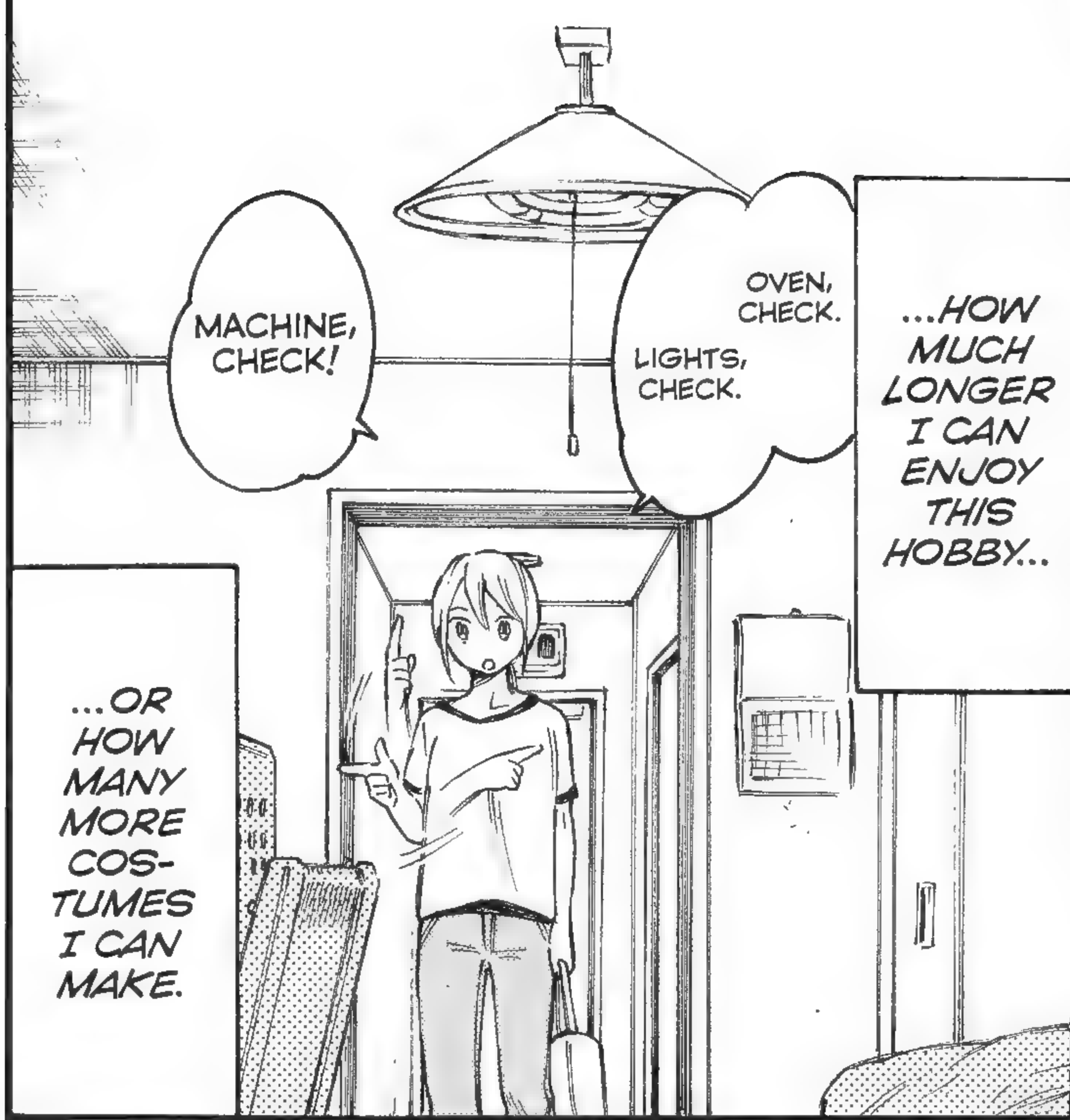
...AND
SO...

...COM-
FORTING.



LOVE IS A
CURSE.





MACHINE,
CHECK!

LIGHTS,
CHECK.

OVEN,
CHECK.

...HOW
MUCH
LONGER
I CAN
ENJOY
THIS
HOBBY...

...OR
HOW
MANY
MORE
COS-
TUMES
I CAN
MAKE.



MMM
...

I
DON'T
KNOW
...



I DON'T
KNOW,
AND
THAT'S
WHY...

TMP
TMP

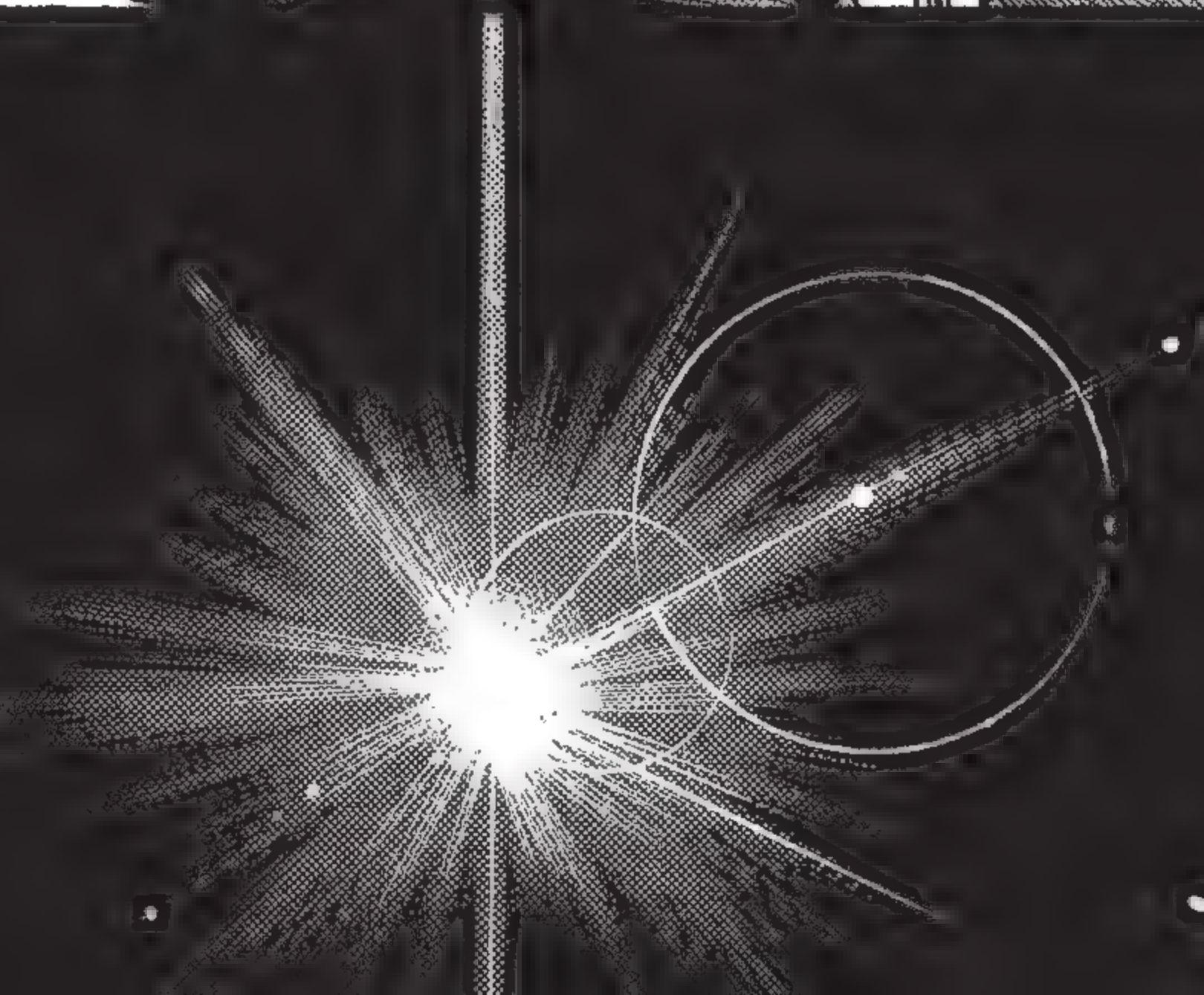


I
DON'T
KNOW
...

...HOW
MANY
PEOPLE
I CAN
MAKE
HAPPY
WITH
THOSE
COSTUMES.

TUG
#11
4?

...I'M
GOING
TO
FIND
OUT.



n.51 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n.52

FINALE.

IF EVEN ONE
OF THOSE
THINGS
HAD BEEN
MISSING, I
DON'T THINK
I COULD
HAVE MADE IT
THROUGH THE
YEAR.

TRULY,
THANK
YOU.

WHAT
SUPPORTED
ME IN THOSE
TIMES WAS, OF
COURSE, MY
READERS, AND
MY ASSISTANTS,
MY EDITORS, MY
FRIENDS, AND
MANGA, ANIME,
AND GAMES!!

ONE YEAR. THIS
SERIES WAS
ONLY ONE YEAR
LONG, BUT
THERE WERE SO
MANY TIMES MY
FEET DRAGGED
AS I HEADED
TOWARD MY
DESK.

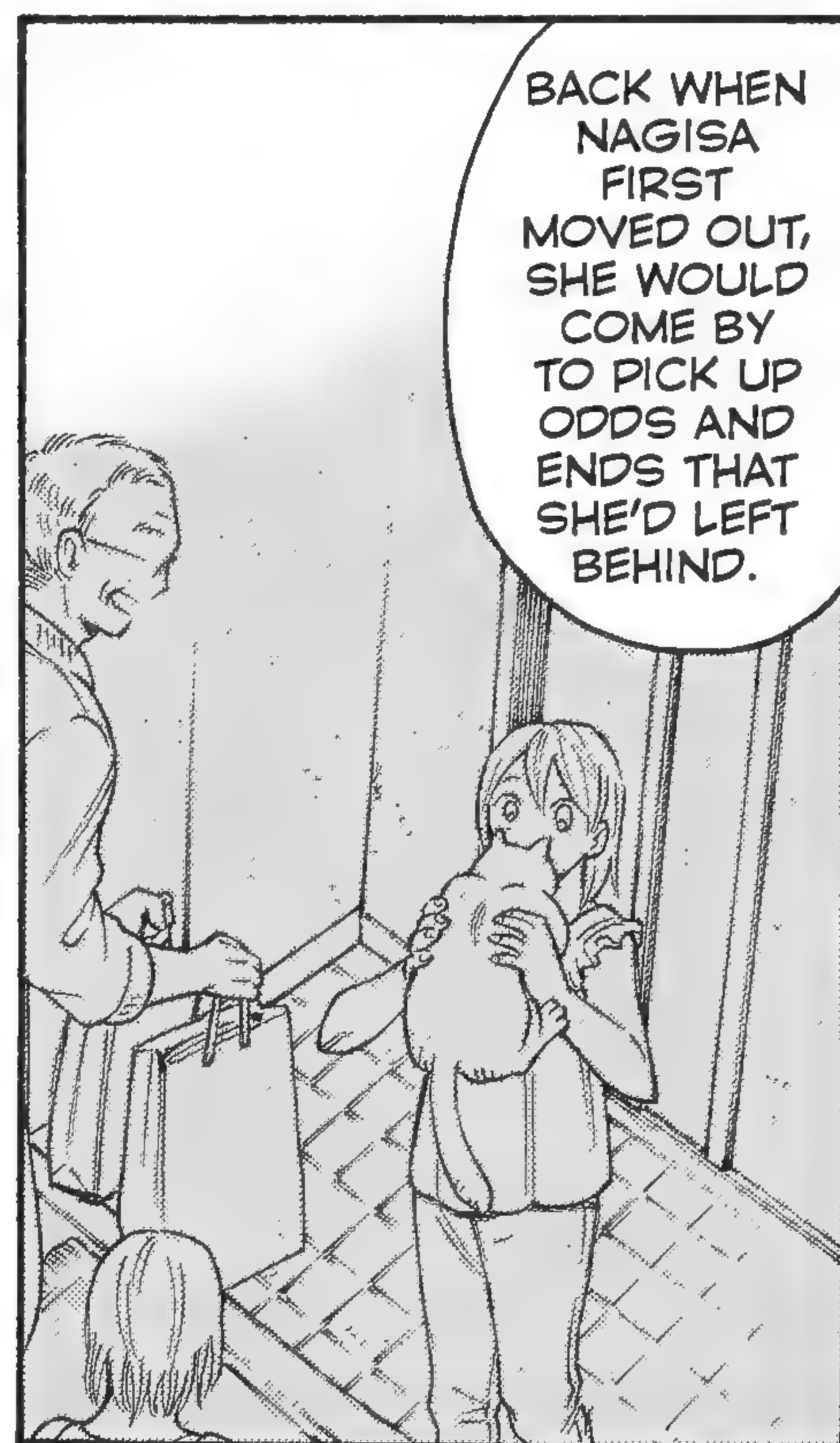
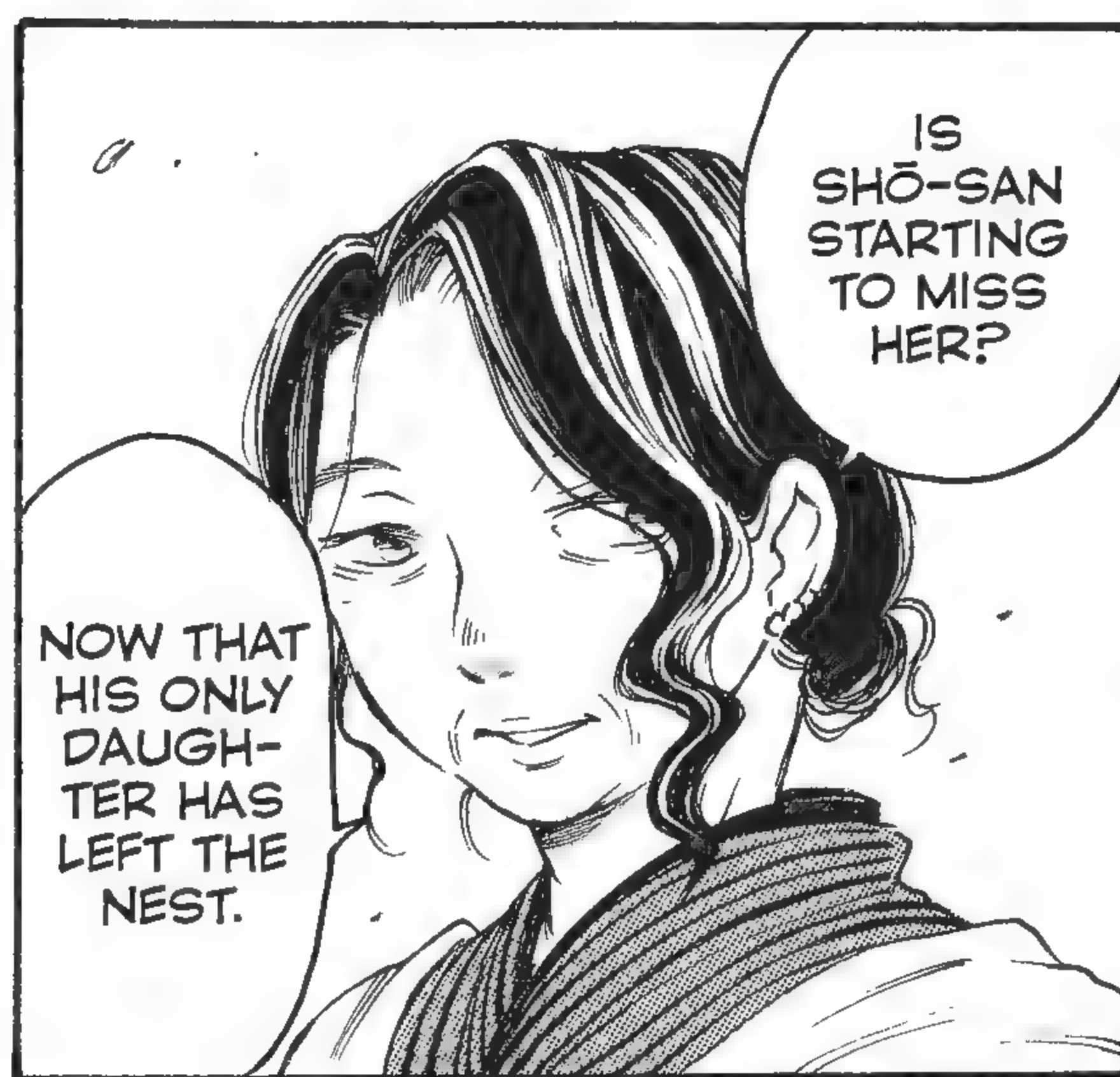
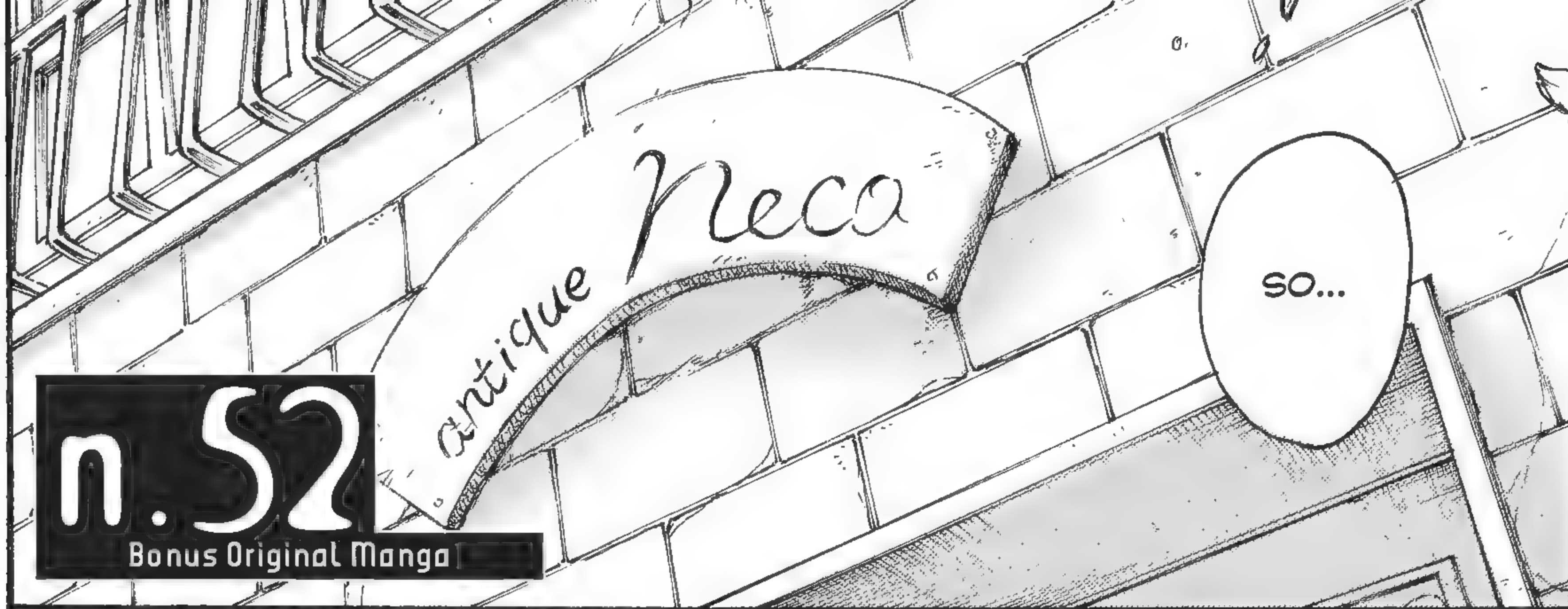
SEE YOU
AGAIN.

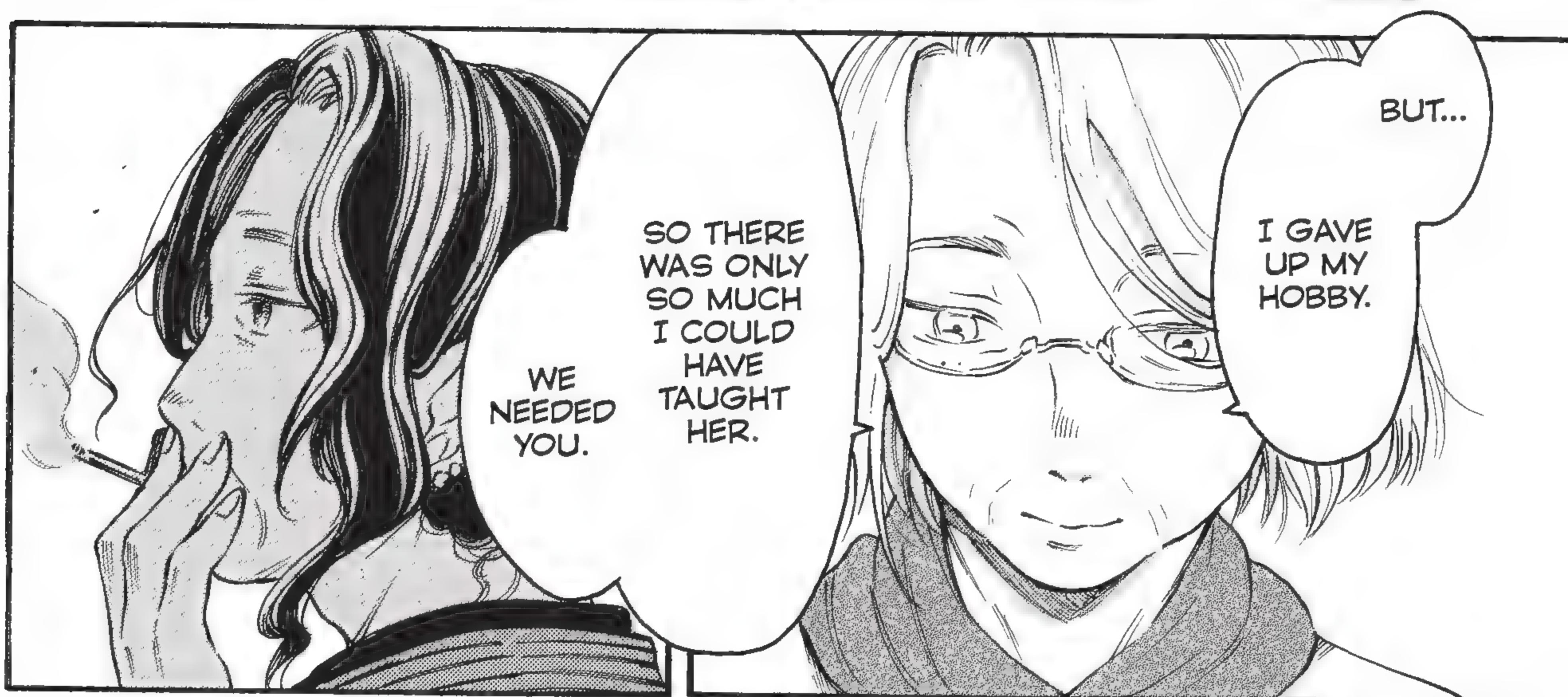
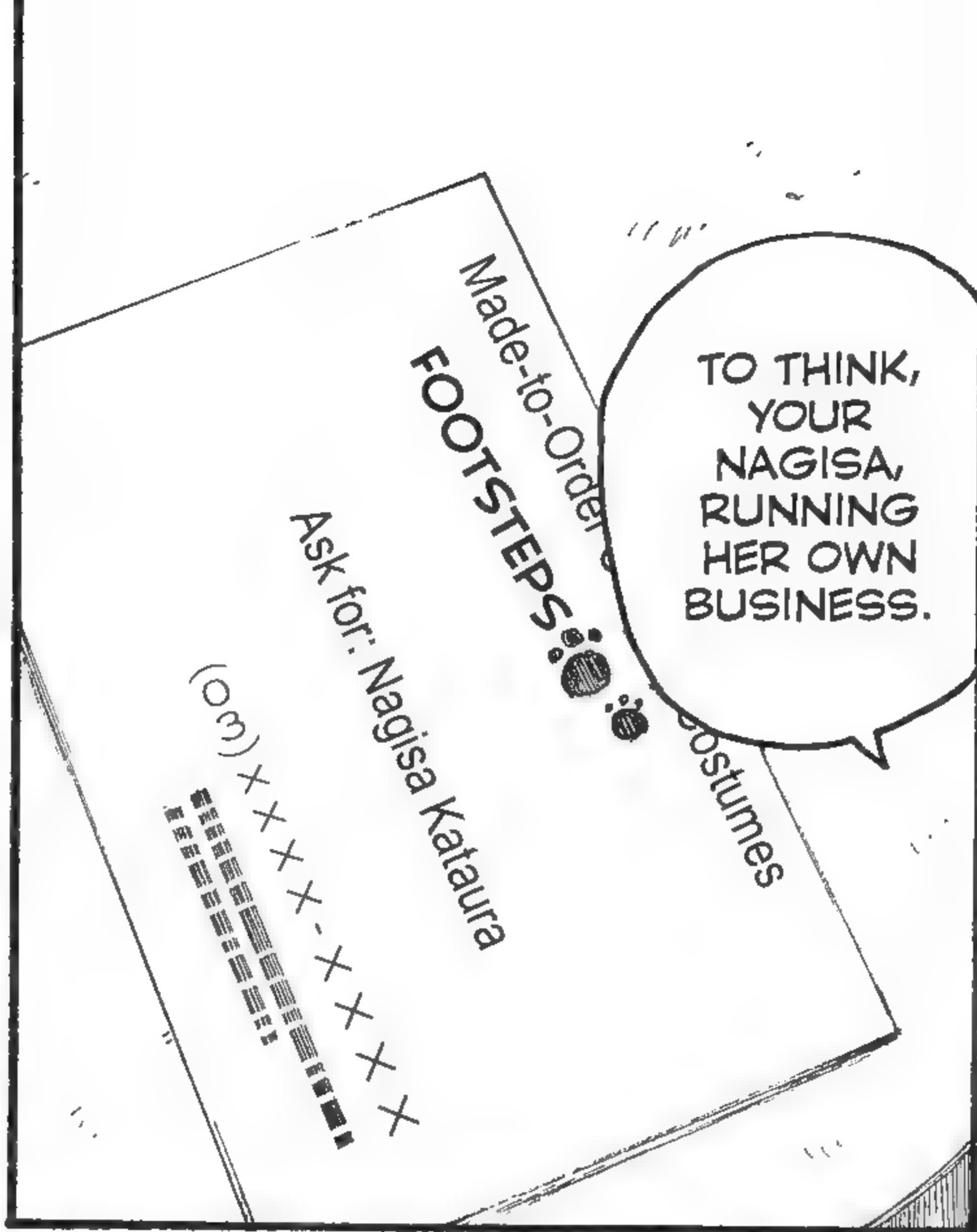
BUT DON'T
FORGET. OUR
HEARTS WILL
ALWAYS BE
CONNECTED.

I'LL
MISS
YOU
VERY
MUCH.

THIS WILL
BE THE
LAST
TIME WE
MEET...











OH, I
GET
IT.

TMP



...I HOPE
SHE CAN
TALK
TO YOU
AGAIN.



OH, IS
THAT HOW
IT IS?

THE MORE
HELPLESS
THE CHILD,
THE MORE
DEAR SHE
IS.

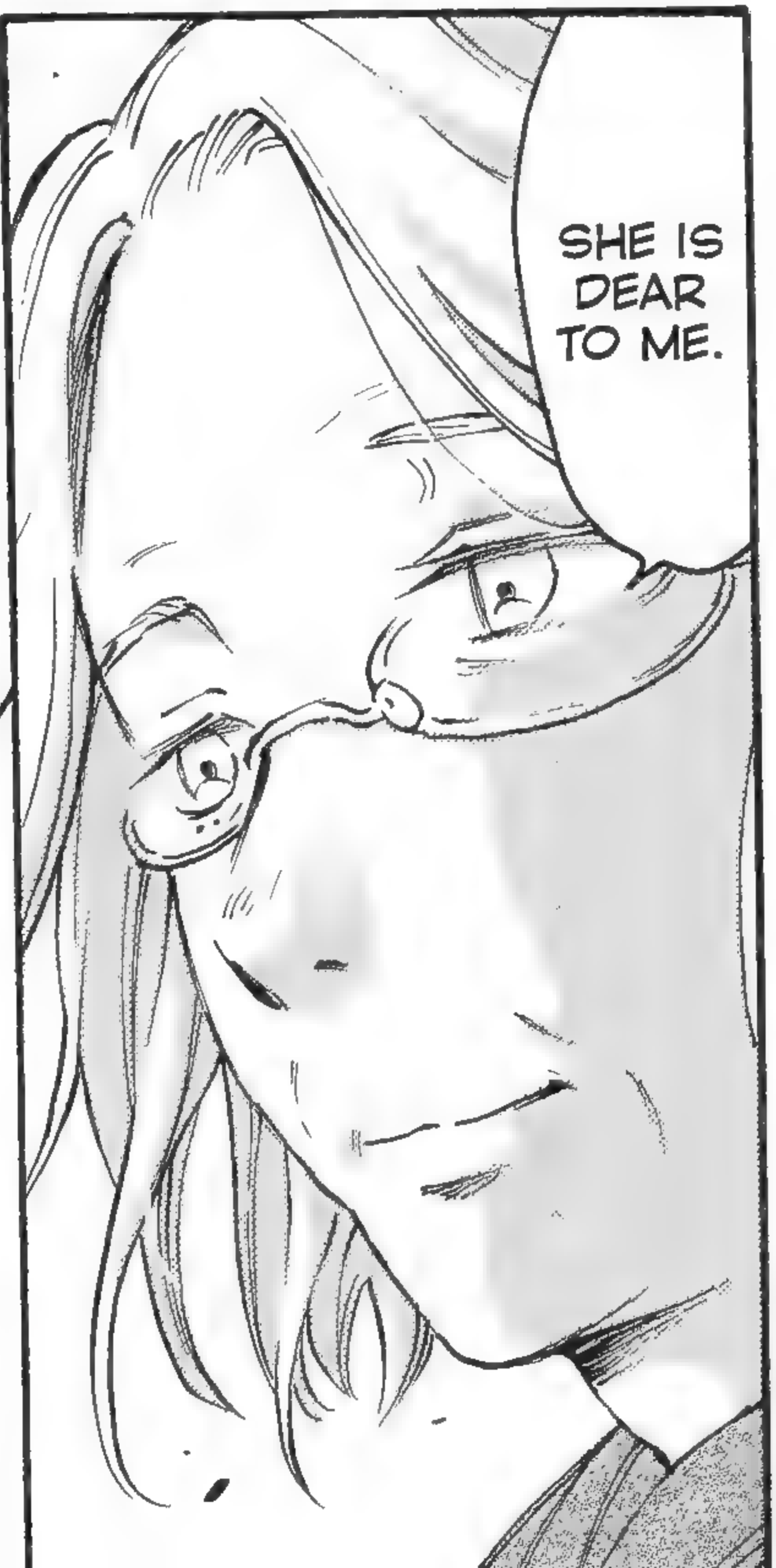
THAT'S
TRUE.

SHŌ-SAN
ISN'T THE
ONLY ONE
HAVING A
HARD TIME
LETTING
HER GO.

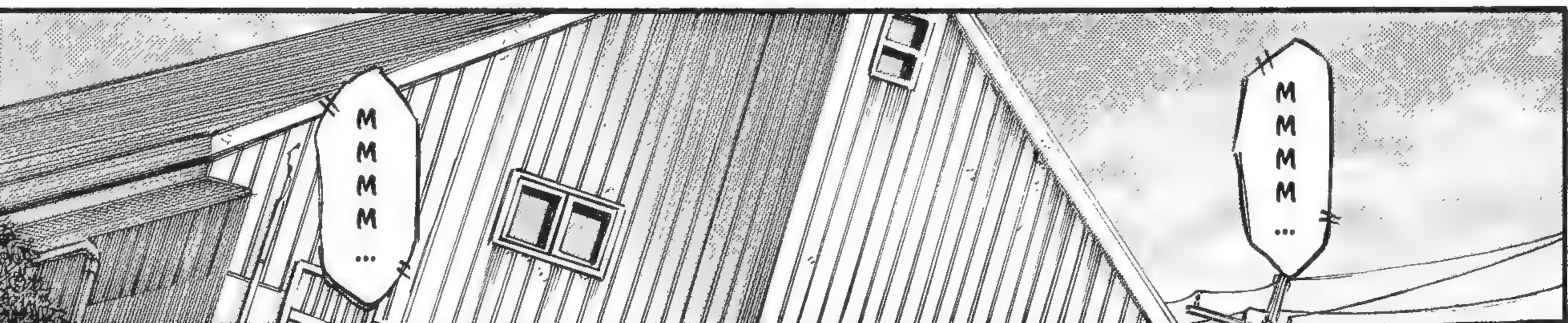
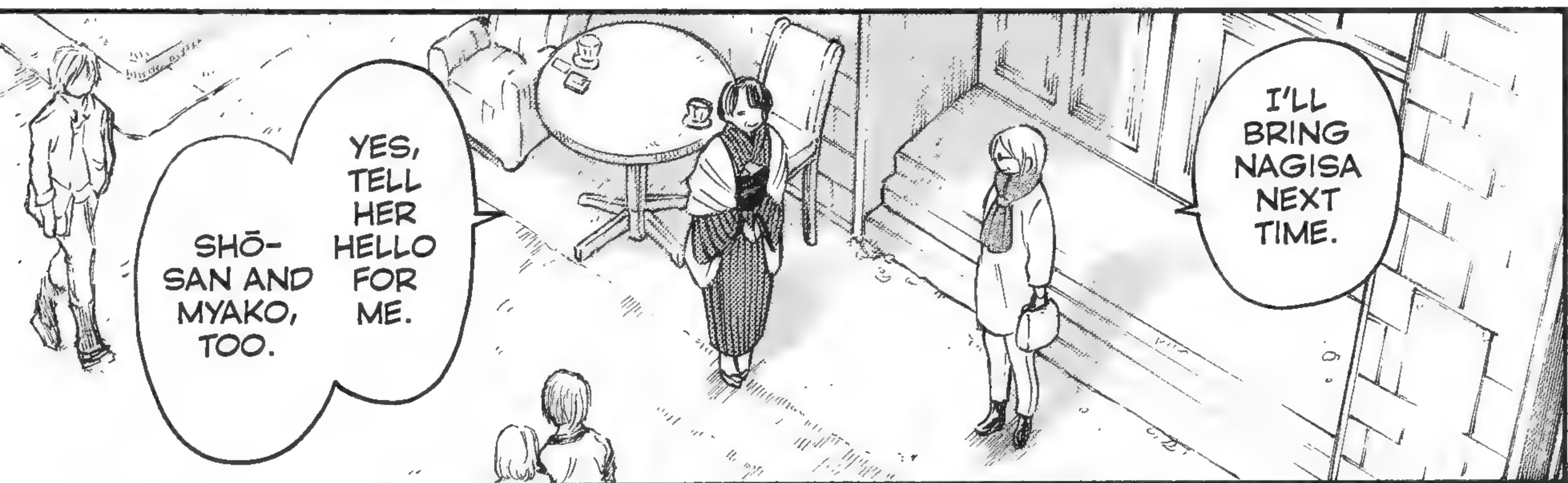
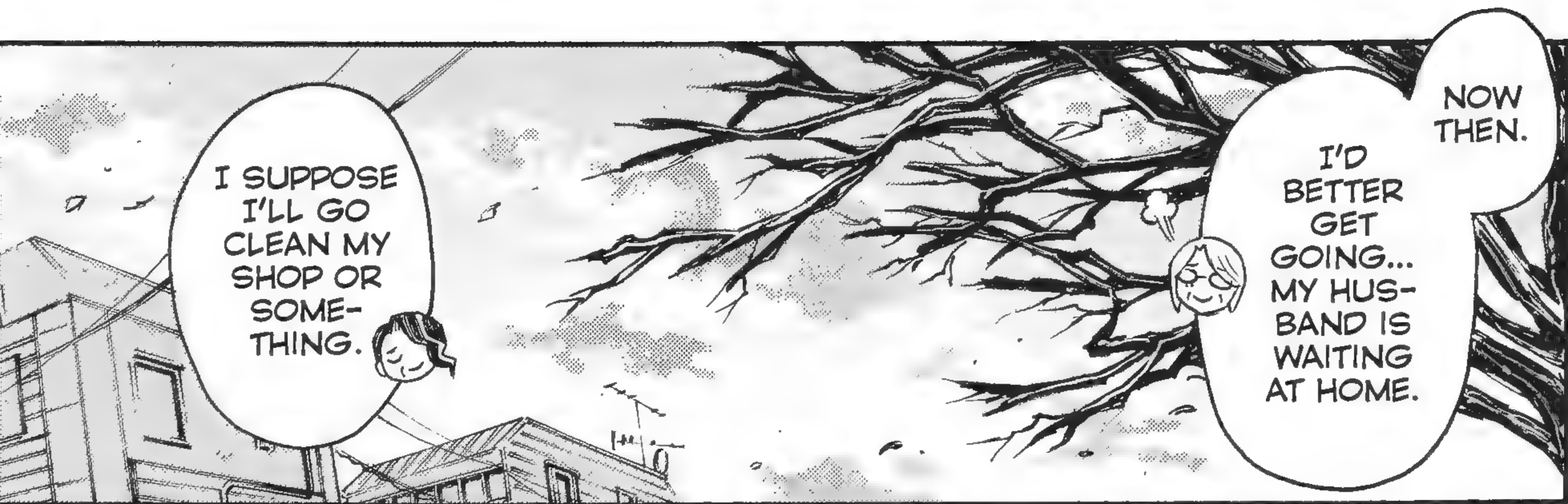


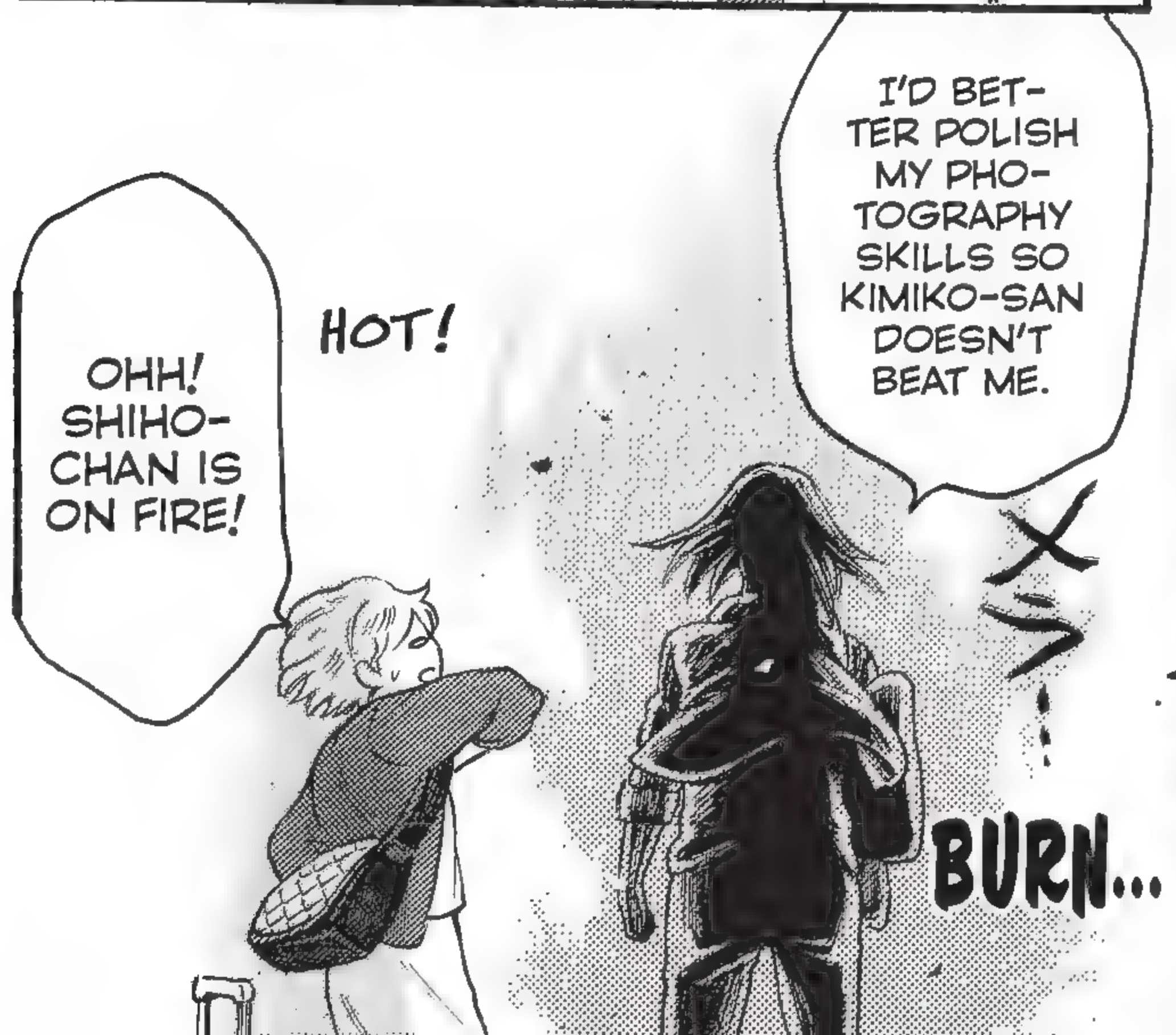
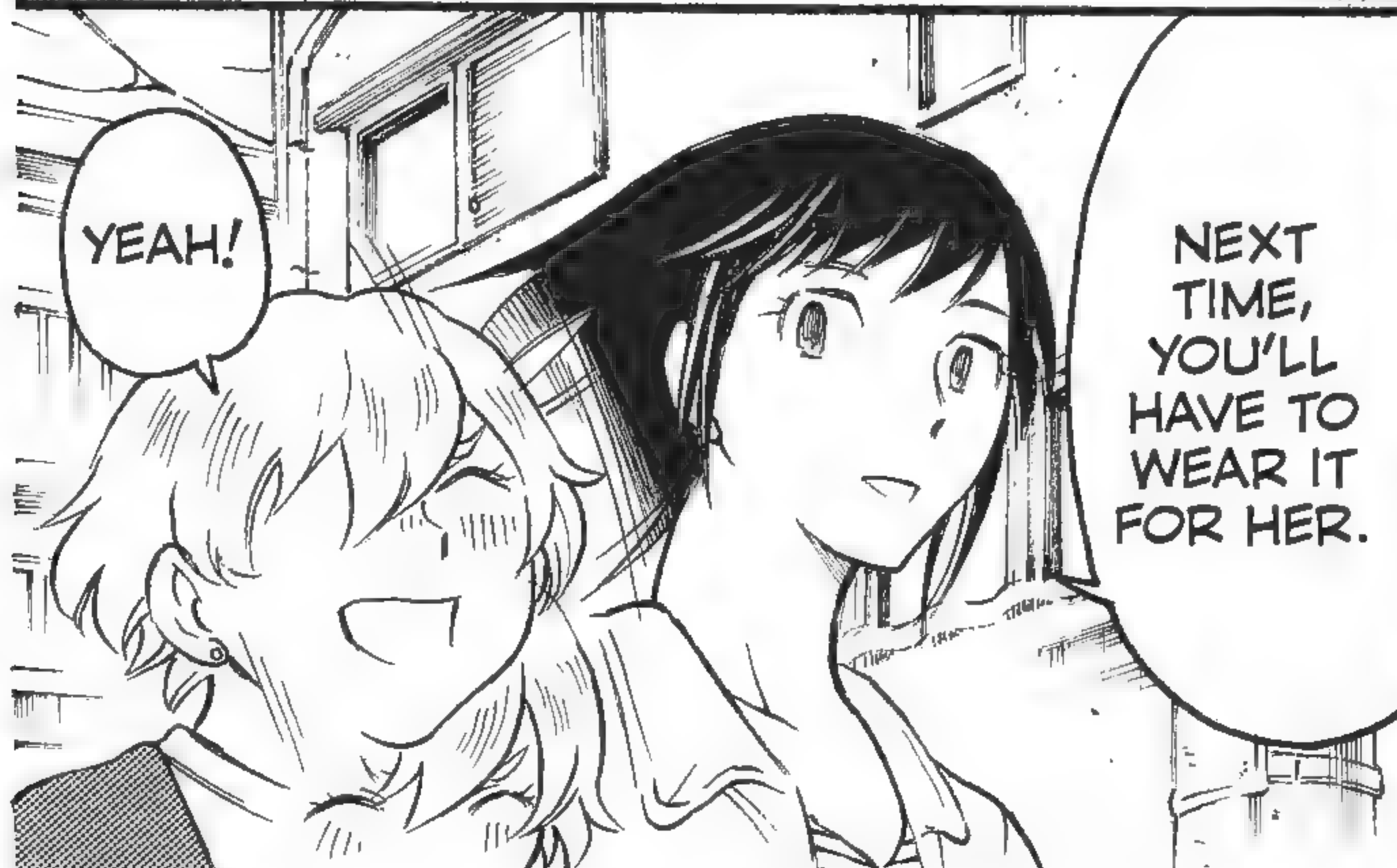
...AS
SHE FOL-
LOWS THE
PATH SHE
STRUG-
GLED SO
HARD TO
FIND.

THAT'S WHY
I HAVE TO
SUPPORT
HER...



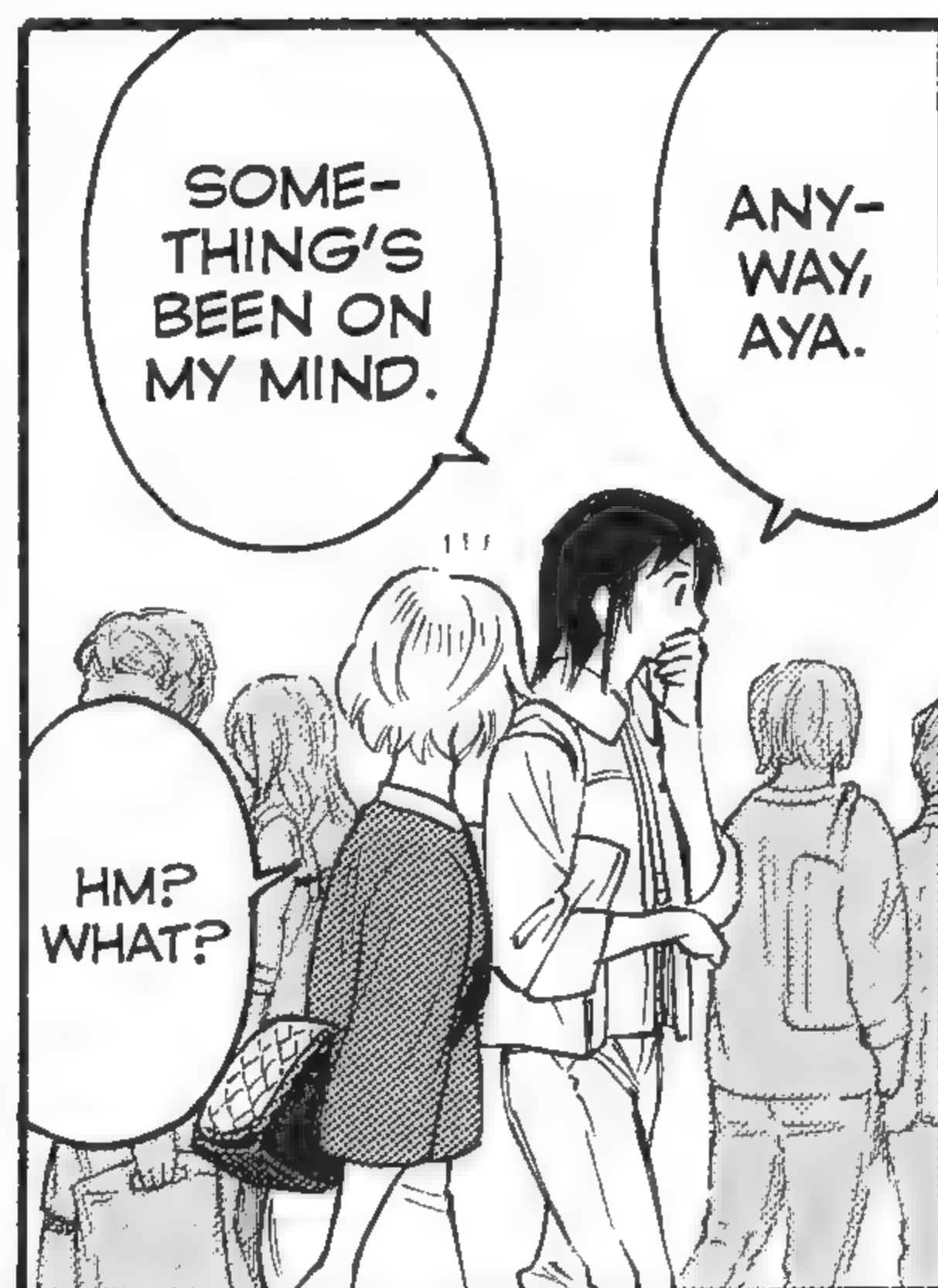
SHE IS
DEAR
TO ME.





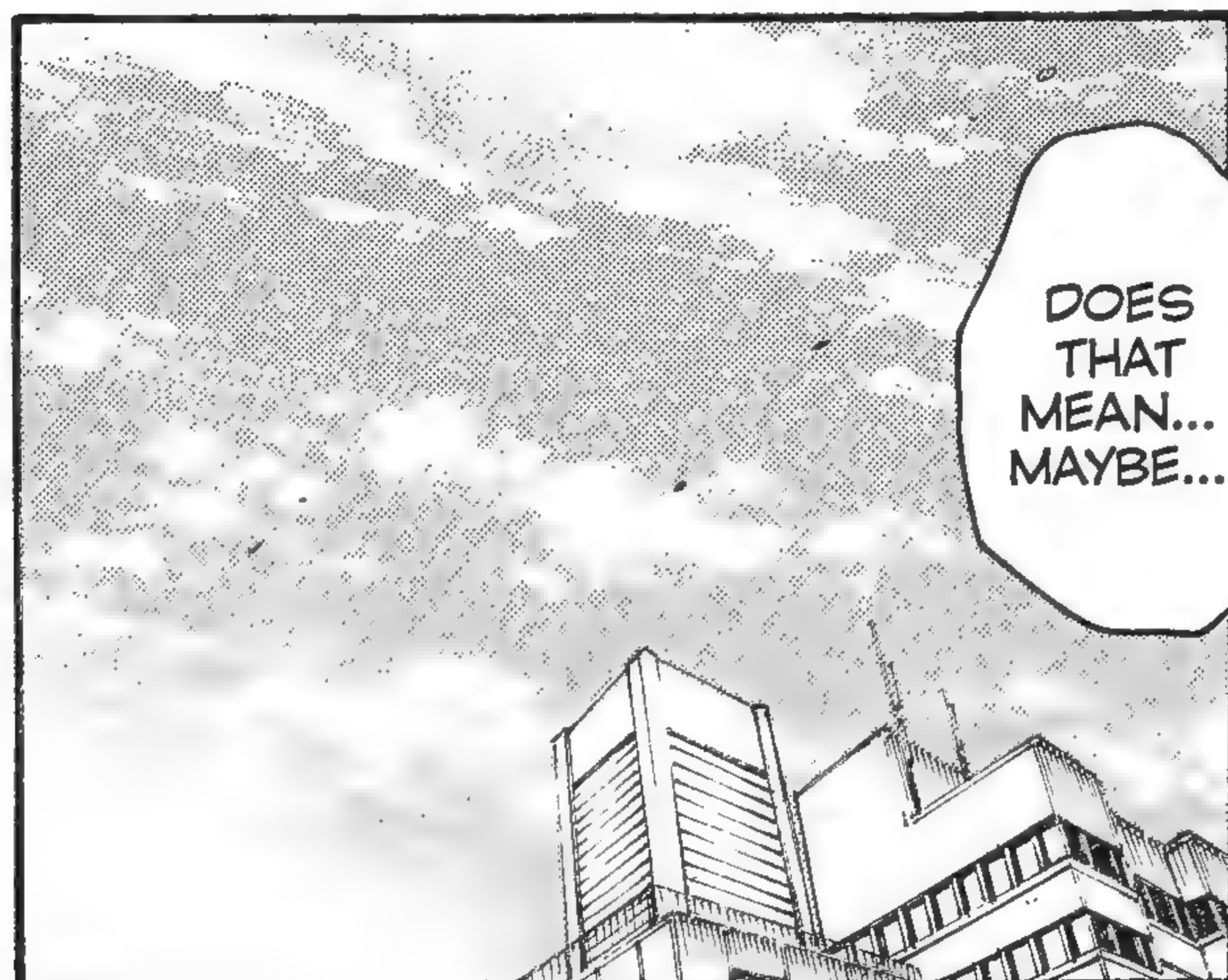


NAGI-SAN TODAY.



ANY-WAY, AYA.

HM? WHAT?



RIGHT?! BUT SHE NEVER WEARS MAKEUP WHILE WORK-ING!



FIDGET
FIDGET

HE
SHOULD
BE
GETTING
HERE
SOON.

I STILL
...

I HAVEN'T
SEEN HIM
SINCE I
LEFT THE
COMPANY
...

SAY HI TO
HASE-KUN
FOR ME!

I HAVE
MORE
HUNT-
ING
TO DO
TODAY!

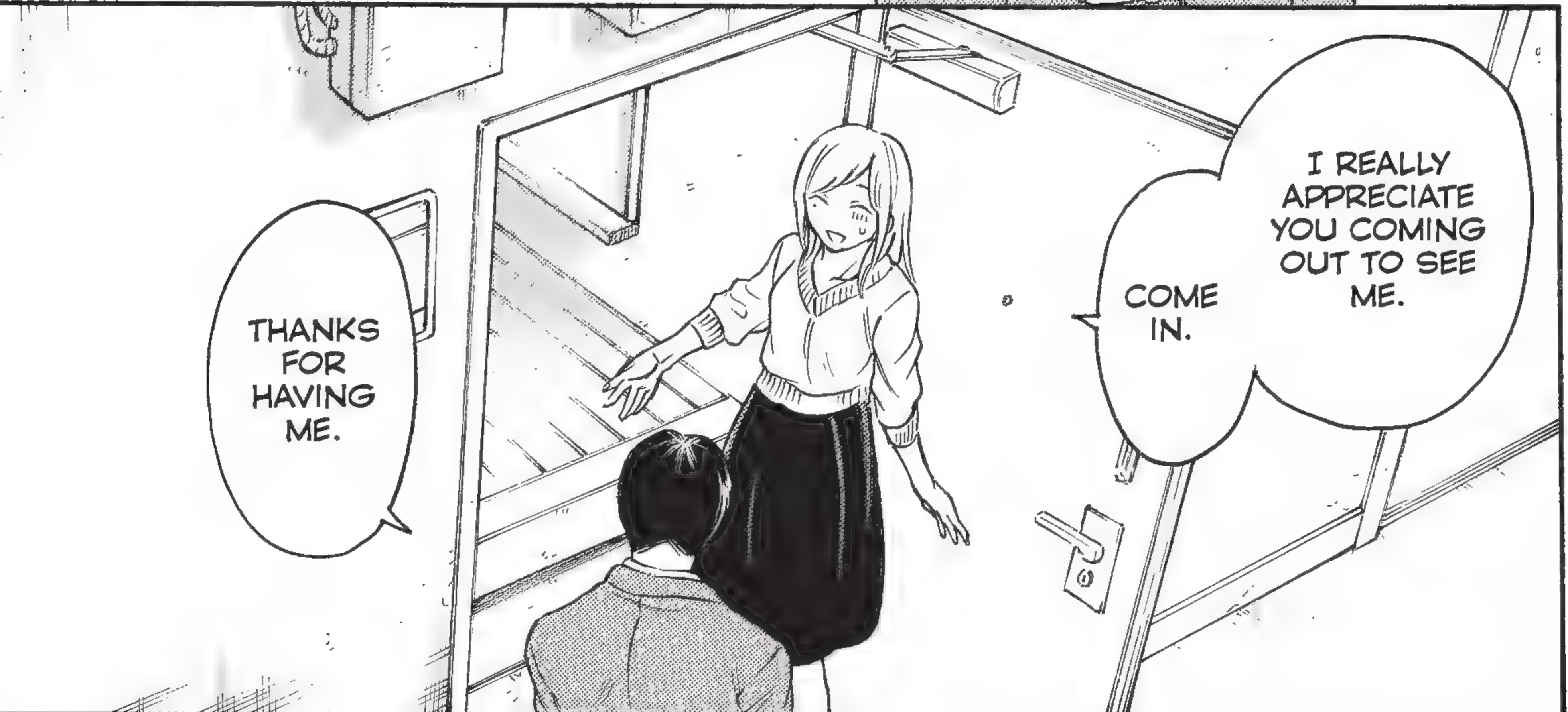
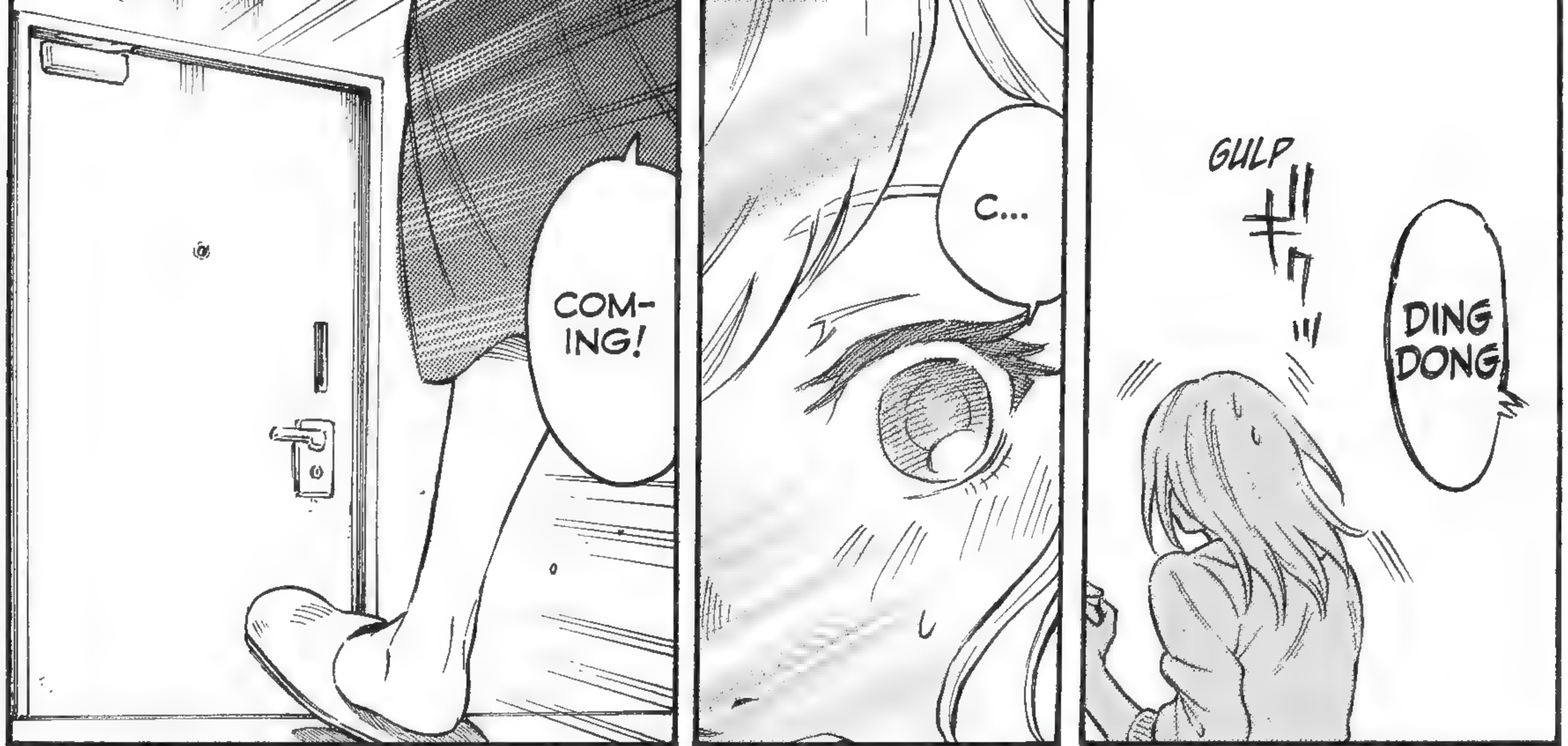
WHY DOES
HAYAMA-SAN
HAVE TO BE
OUT RIGHT
NOW?!

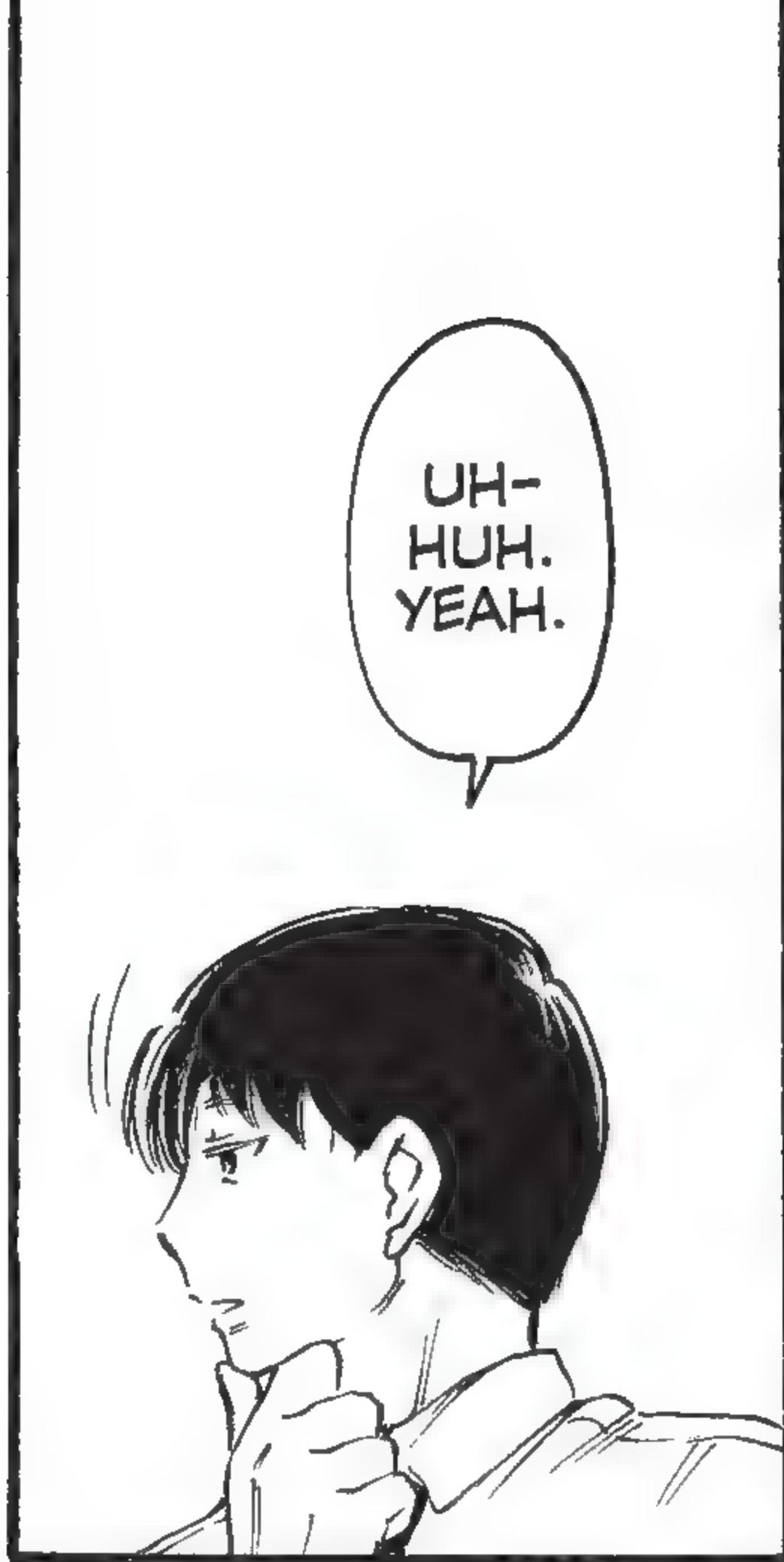
WE HAVE
STUFF TO
DO, SO BYE!

AND
THEY
SAID
THEY
HAD
SOME-
THING
TO DO
AND
LEFT!

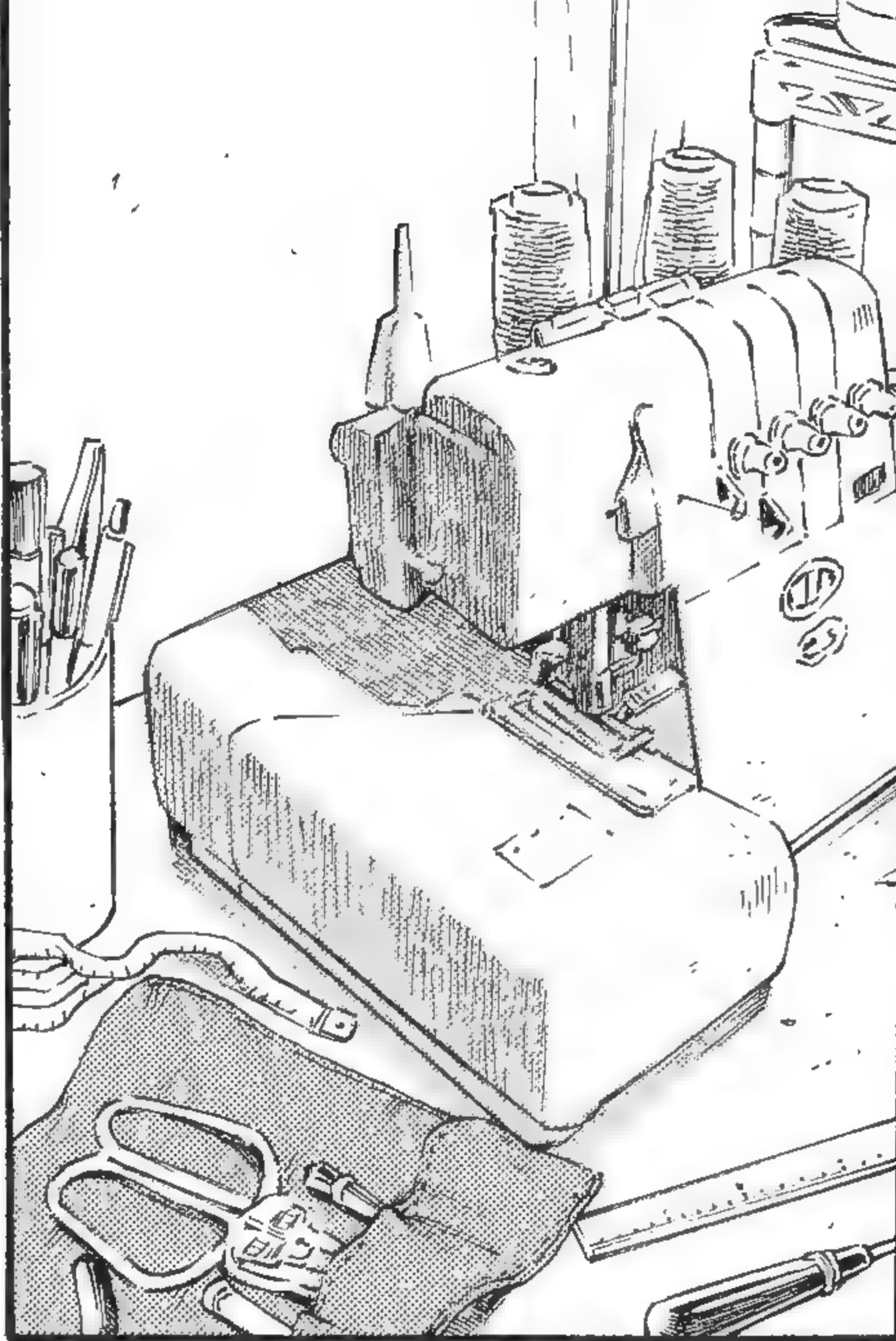
AAAAARRGH!!

...FEEL
IT.

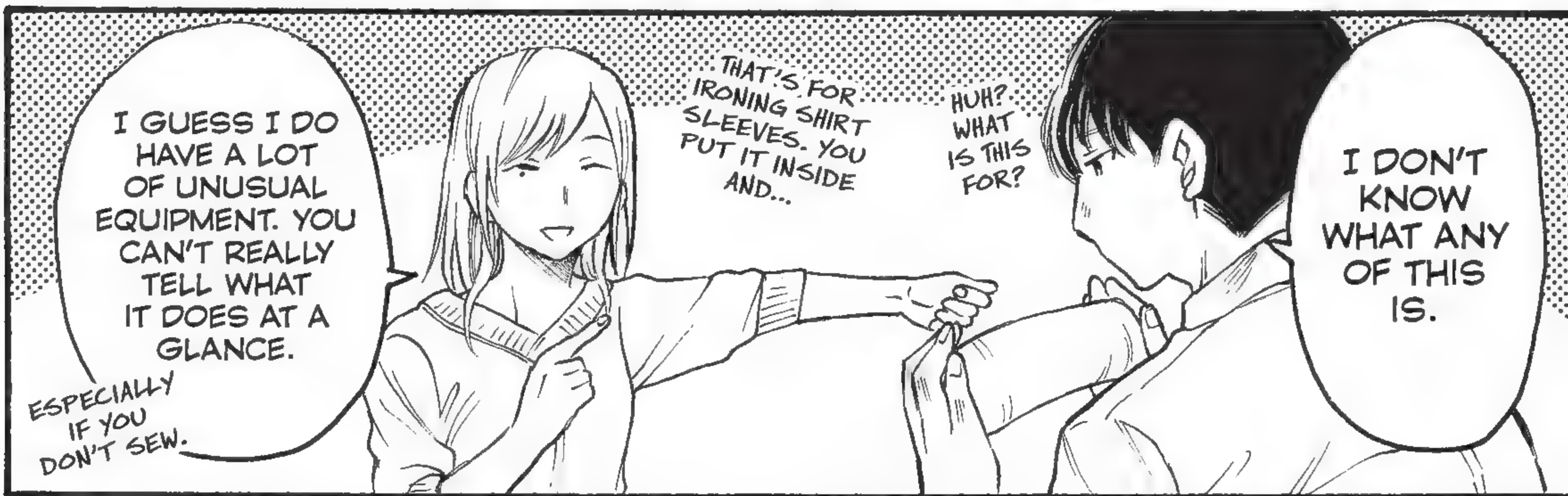




UH-
HUH.
YEAH.



H
M
M
...



I GUESS I DO
HAVE A LOT
OF UNUSUAL
EQUIPMENT. YOU
CAN'T REALLY
TELL WHAT
IT DOES AT A
GLANCE.

ESPECIALLY
IF YOU
DON'T SEW.

THAT'S FOR
IRONING SHIRT
SLEEVES. YOU
PUT IT INSIDE
AND...

HUH?
WHAT
IS THIS
FOR?

I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT ANY
OF THIS
IS.



OH,
REALLY?

BUT THANKS
TO ALL OF
HAYAMA-
SAN'S HARD
WORK, I GET
THEM ALL
THE TIME
NOW.



YES,
PLEASE.
THANK
YOU.

WILL
COFFEE BE
ALL RIGHT,
DIRECTOR
HASE?



IT'S
GOOD.

I DIDN'T
GET ANY
ORDERS
AT FIRST.

HOW IS
BUSINESS?

SO?





MA—

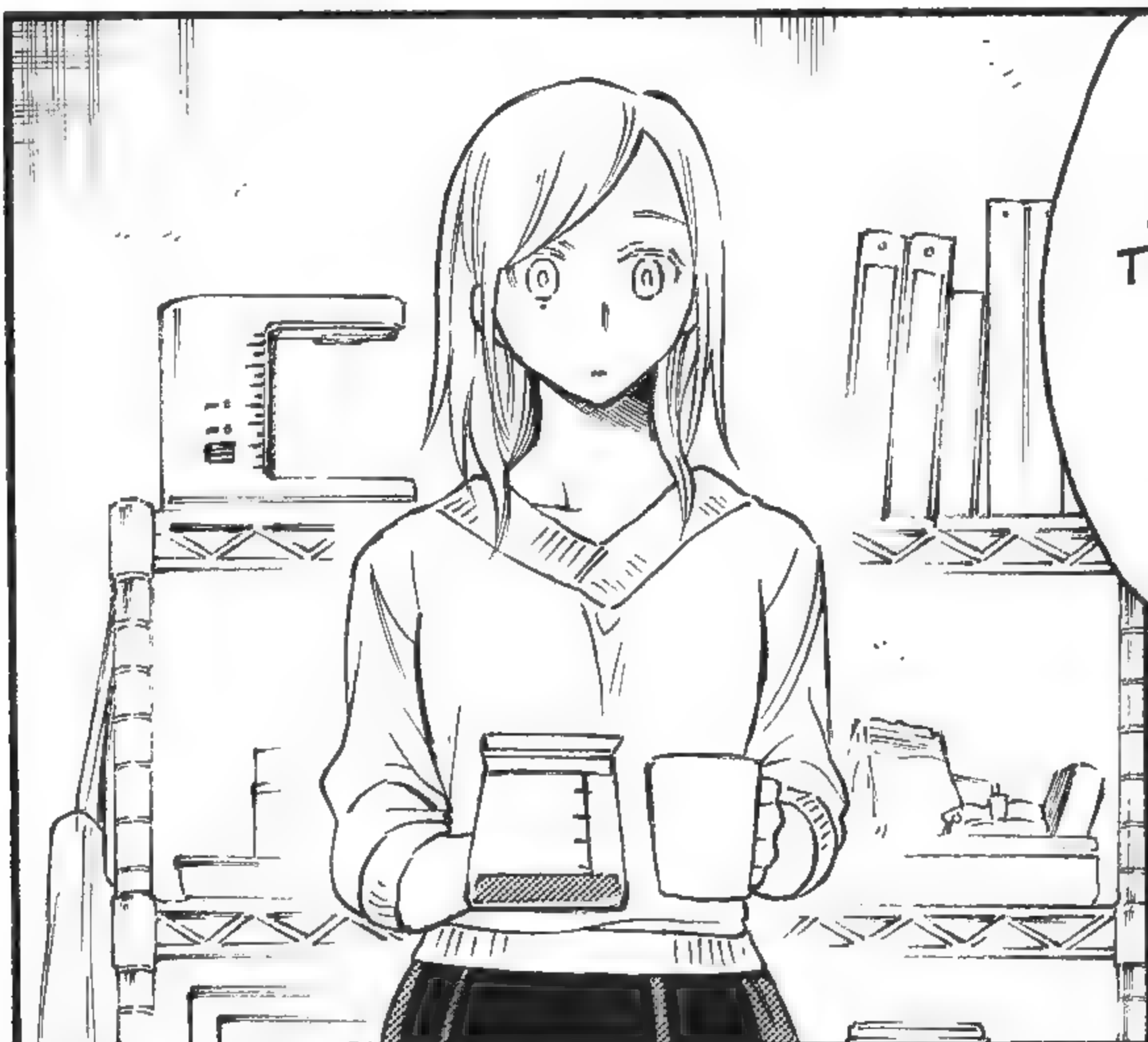
HASE...



OKAY
...

ER...
UH.

DIRECTOR
HASE'S FIRST
NAME WAS...
MAKOTO, RIGHT?



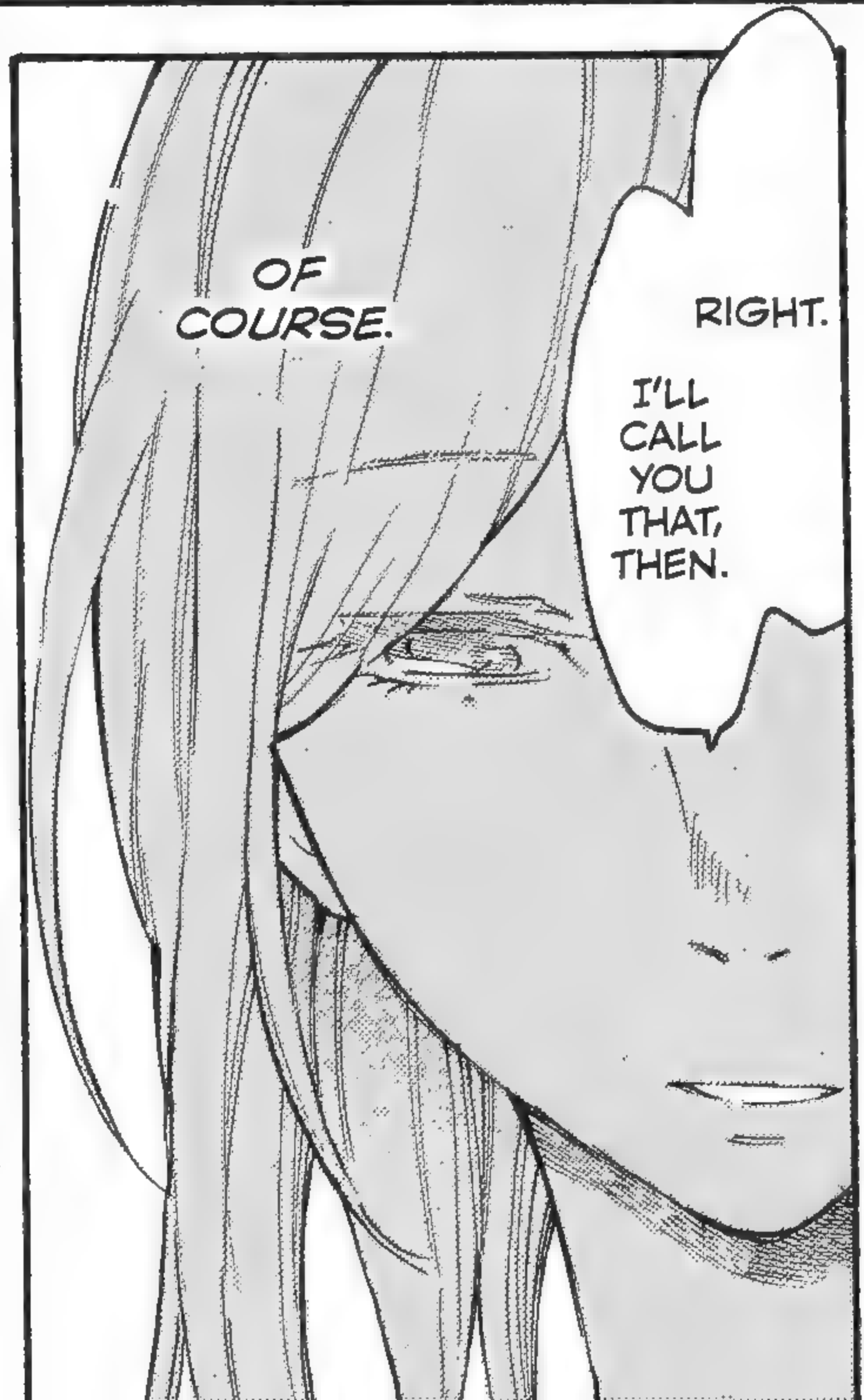
...WILL DO.
THAT WOULD
BE THE
NORMAL
THING.



HERE.

IT WOULD BE
JARRING TO
SUDDENLY
HAVE SOMEONE
START CALLING
YOU BY YOUR
FIRST NAME.

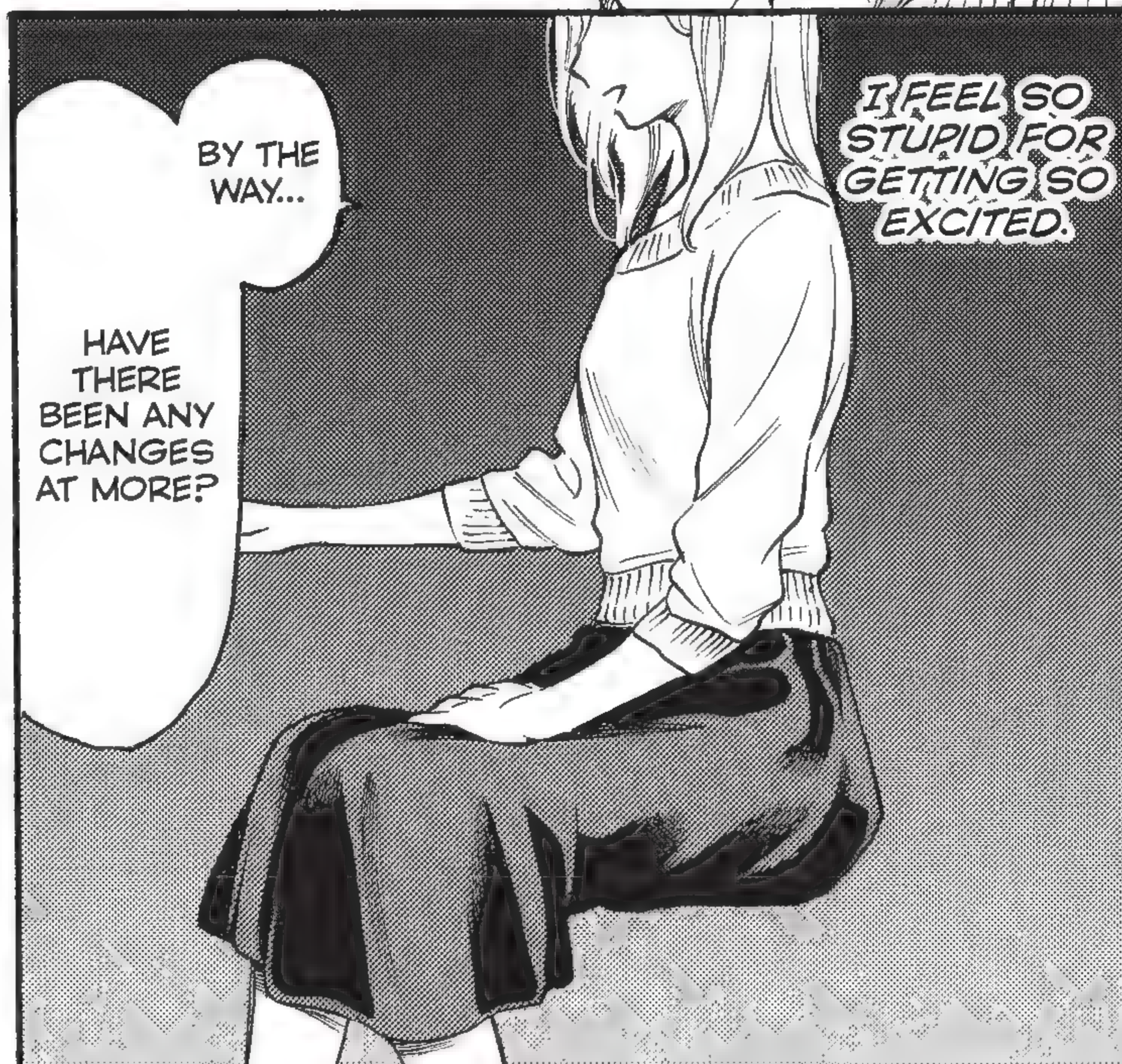
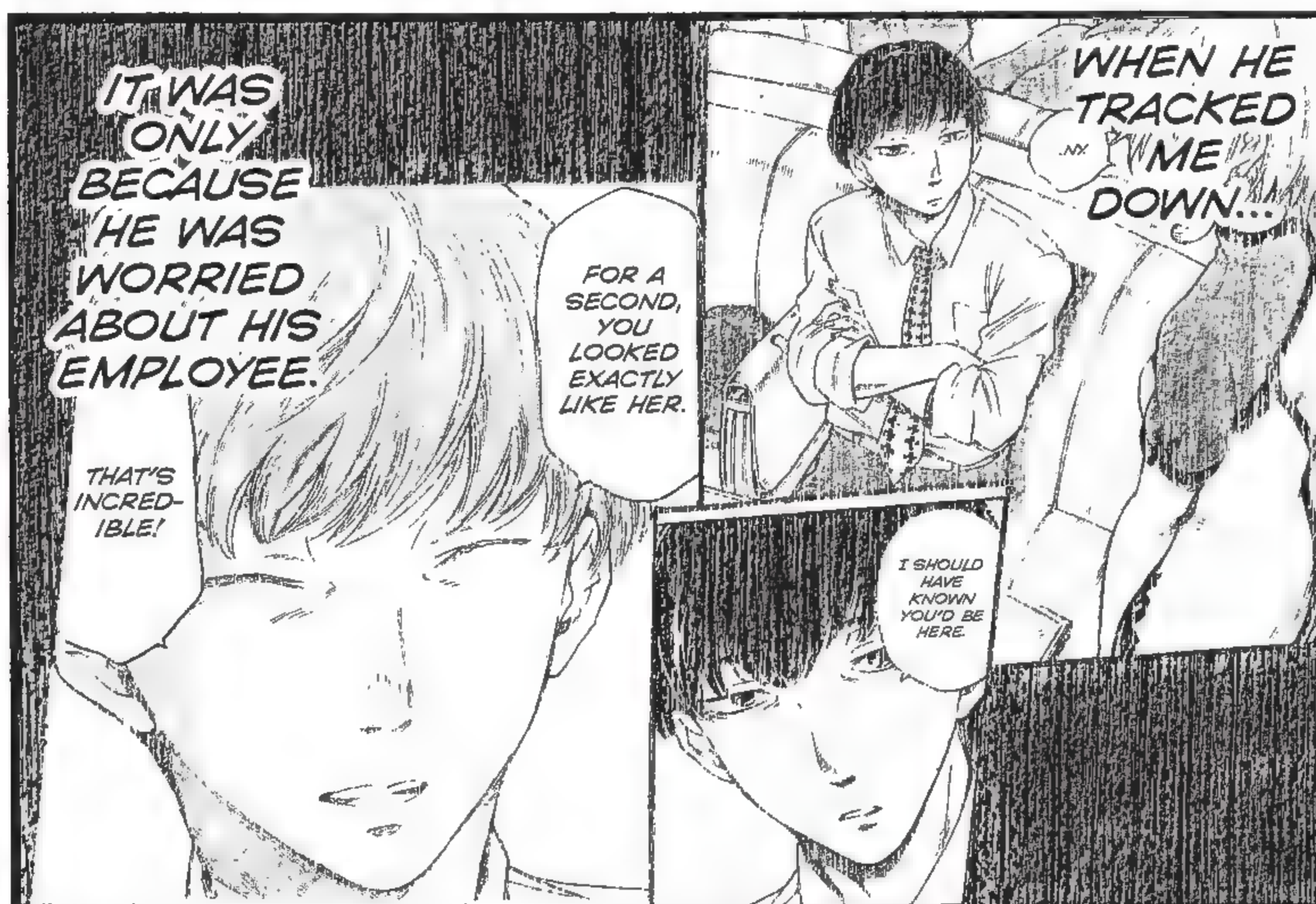
THANK
YOU
VERY
MUCH.

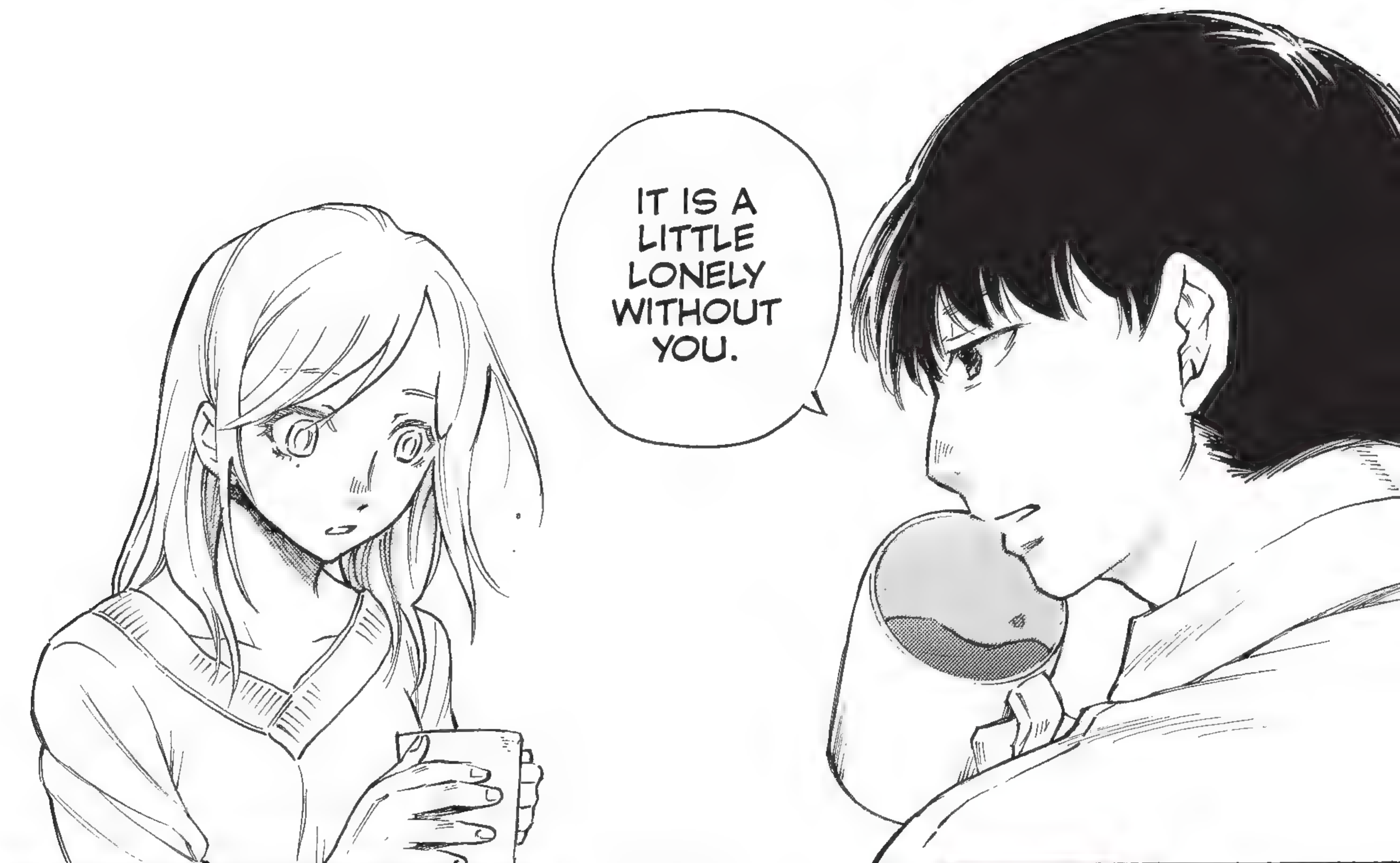


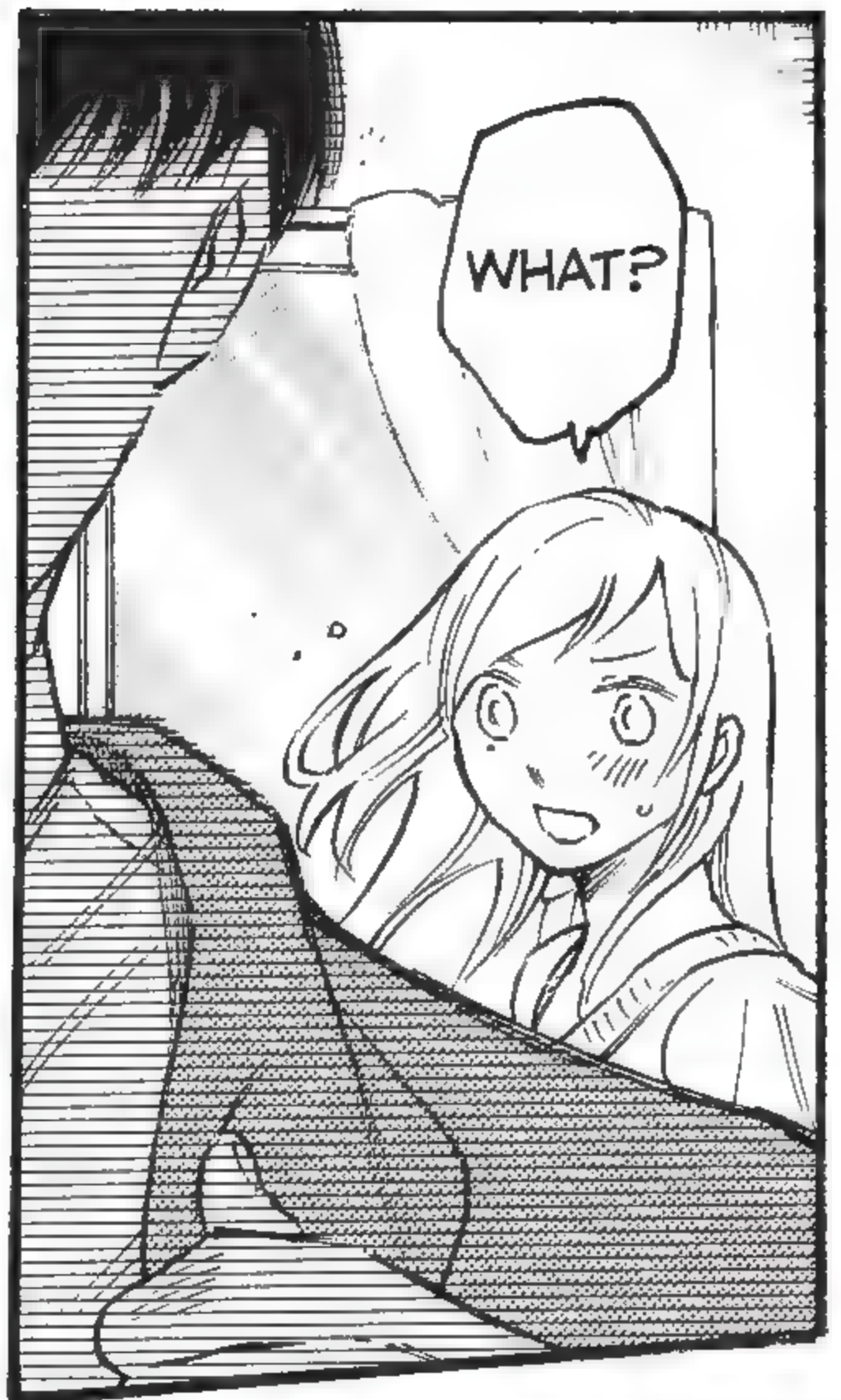
OF
COURSE.

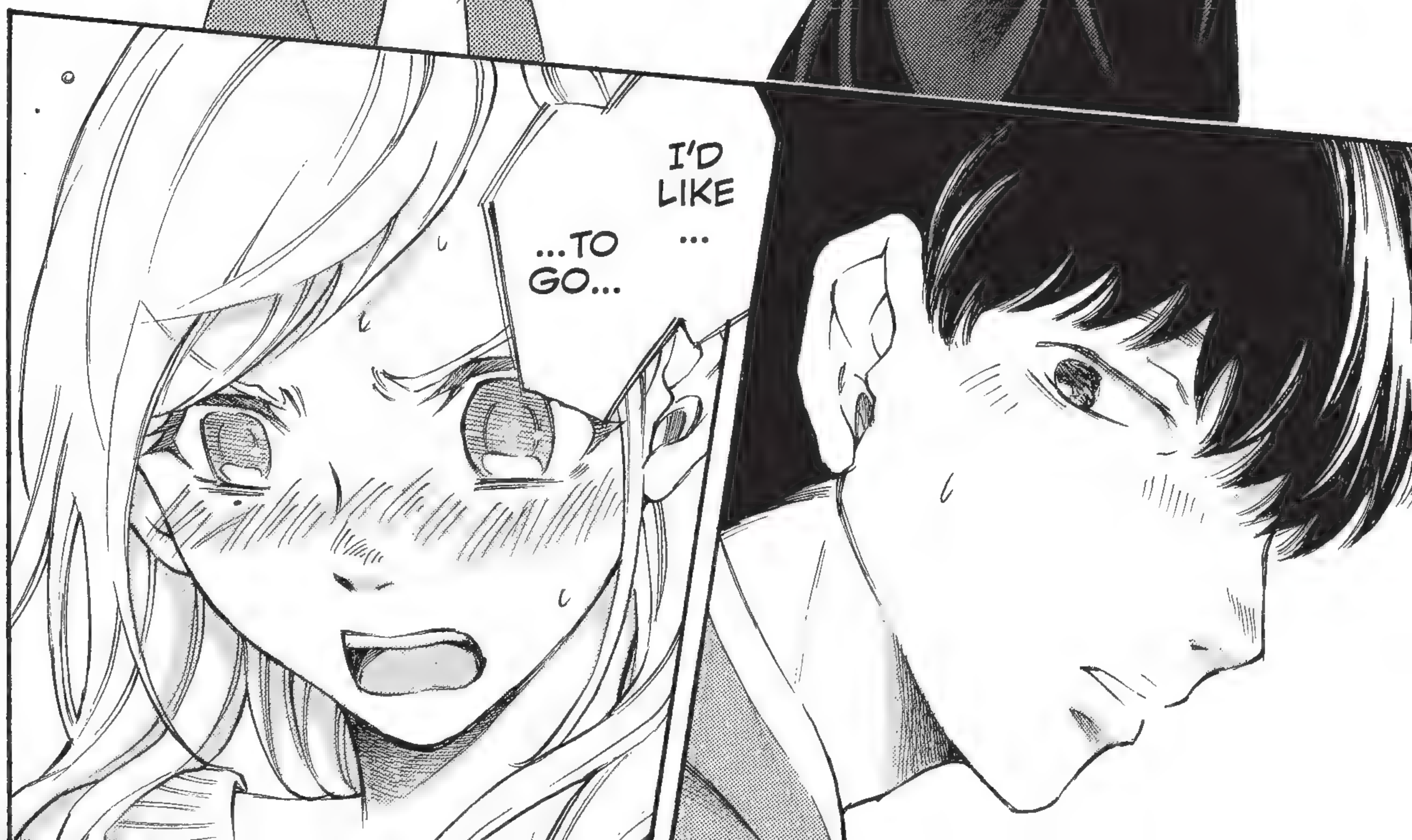
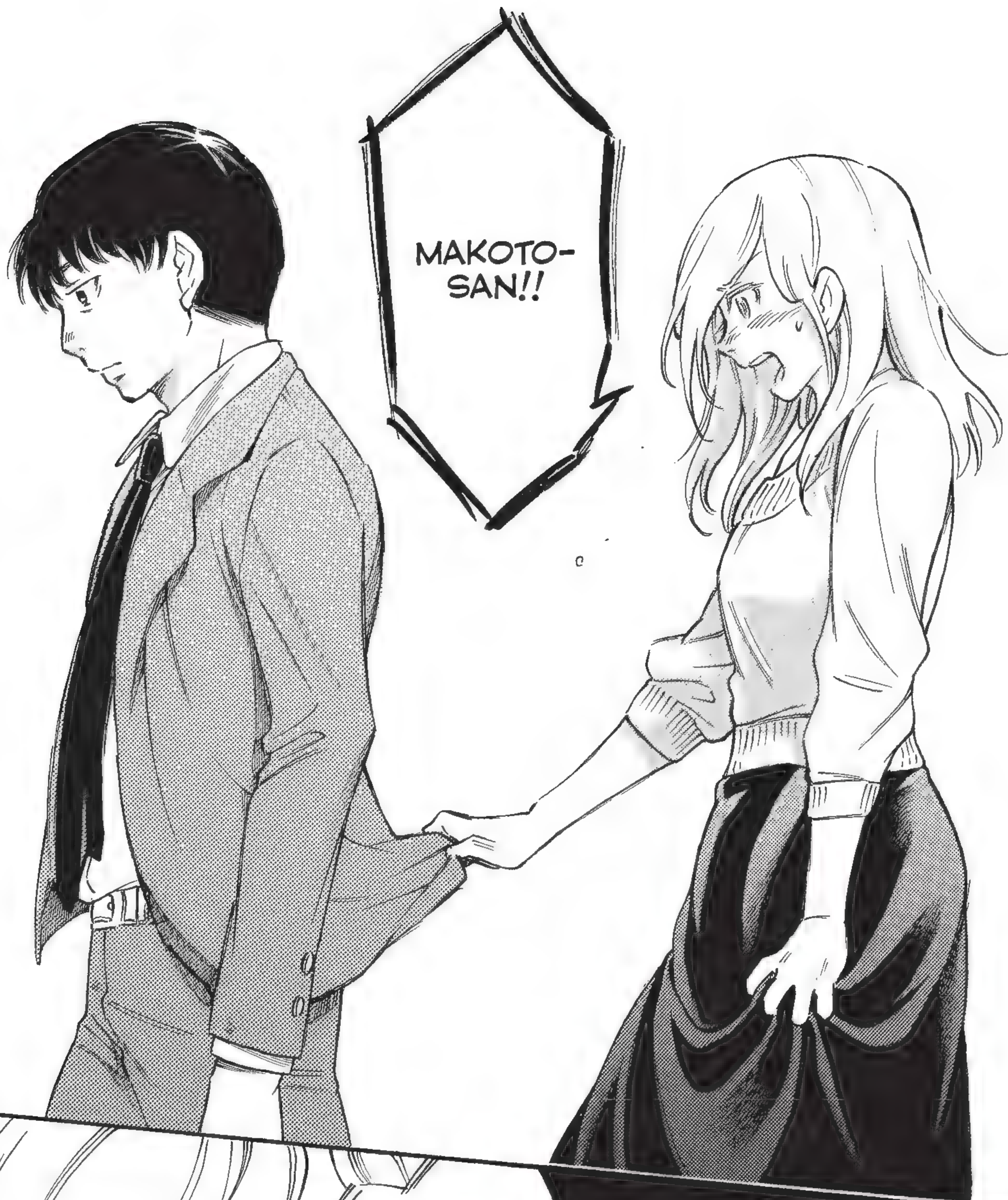
RIGHT.

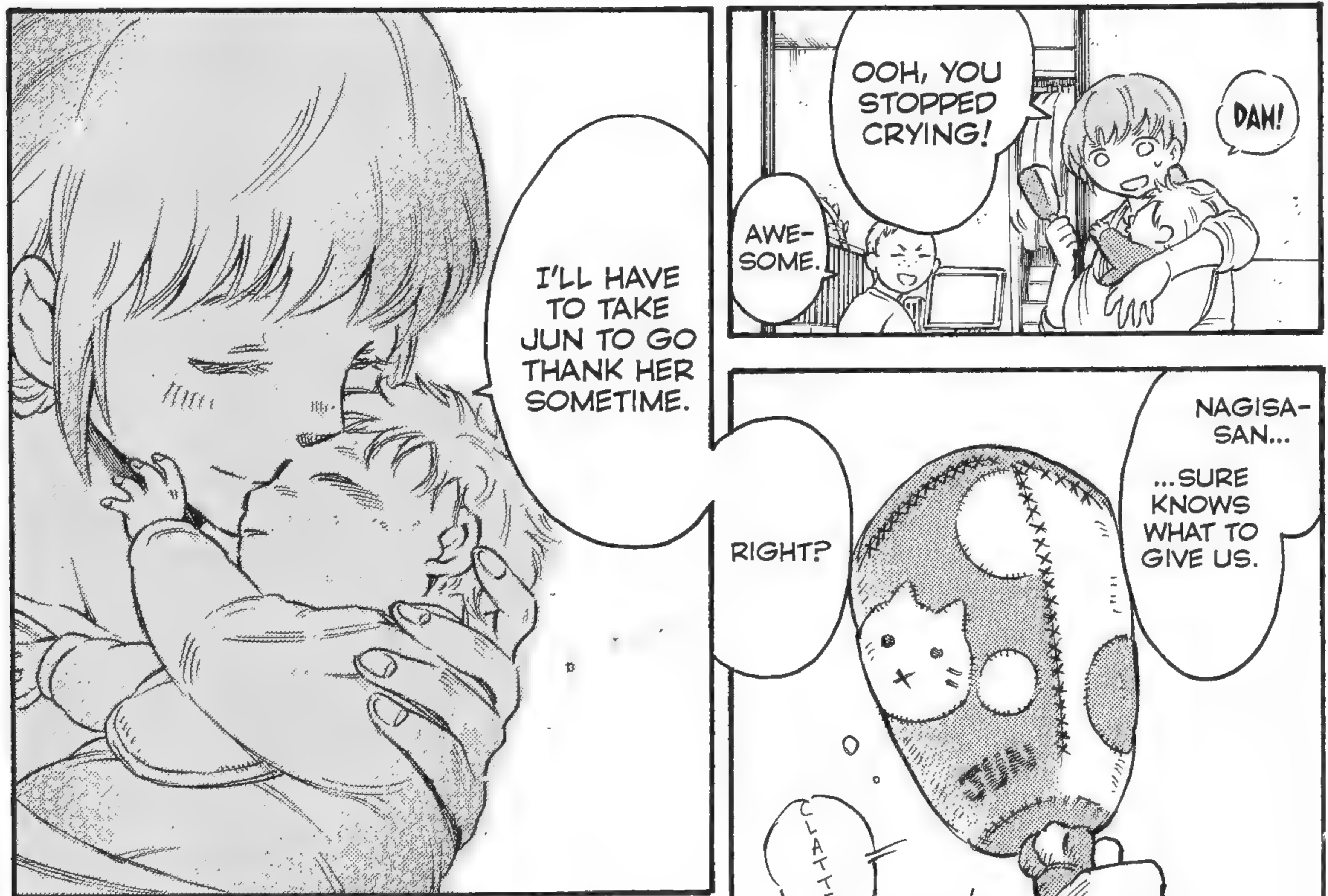
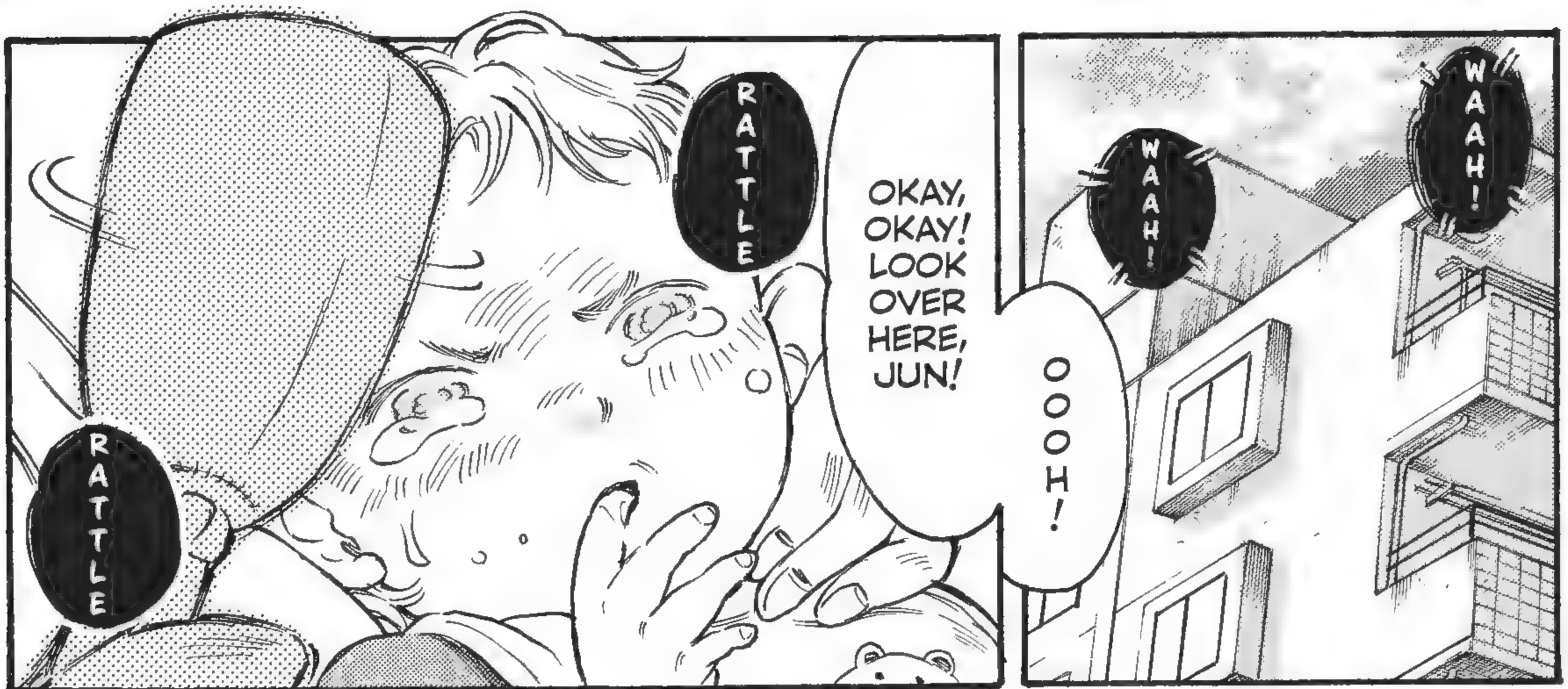
I'LL
CALL
YOU
THAT,
THEN.





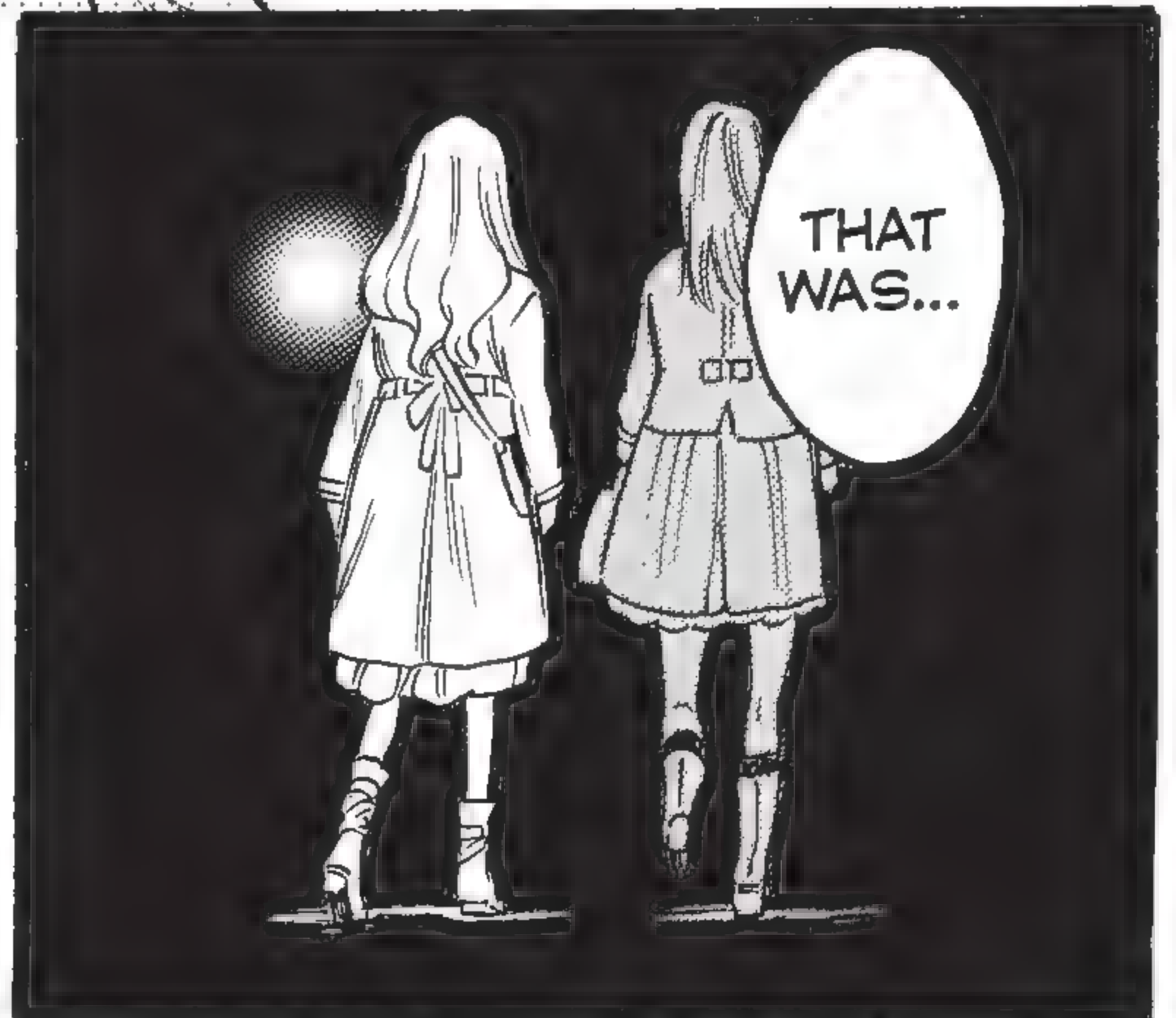


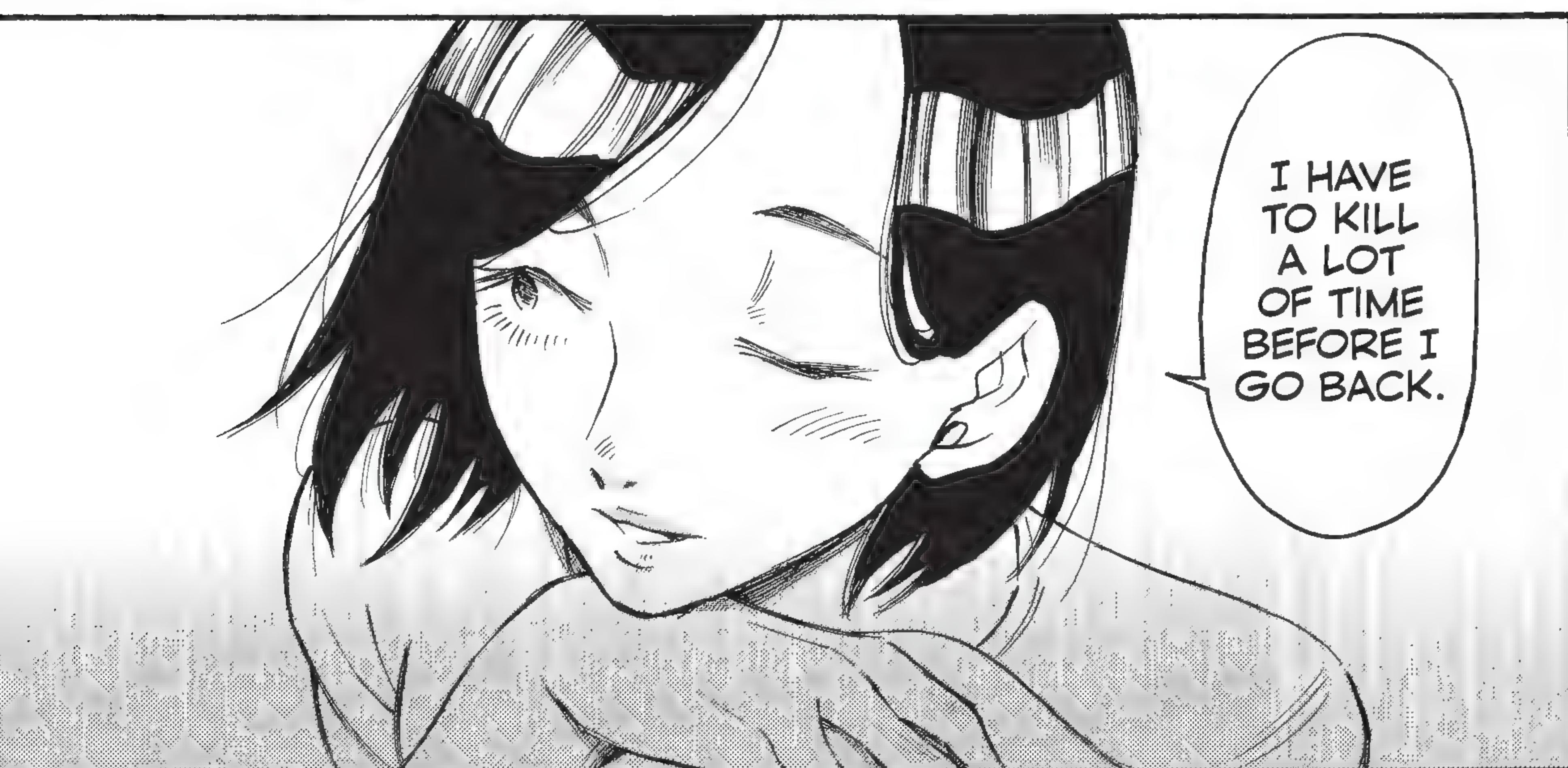






Sign: Café Pomme





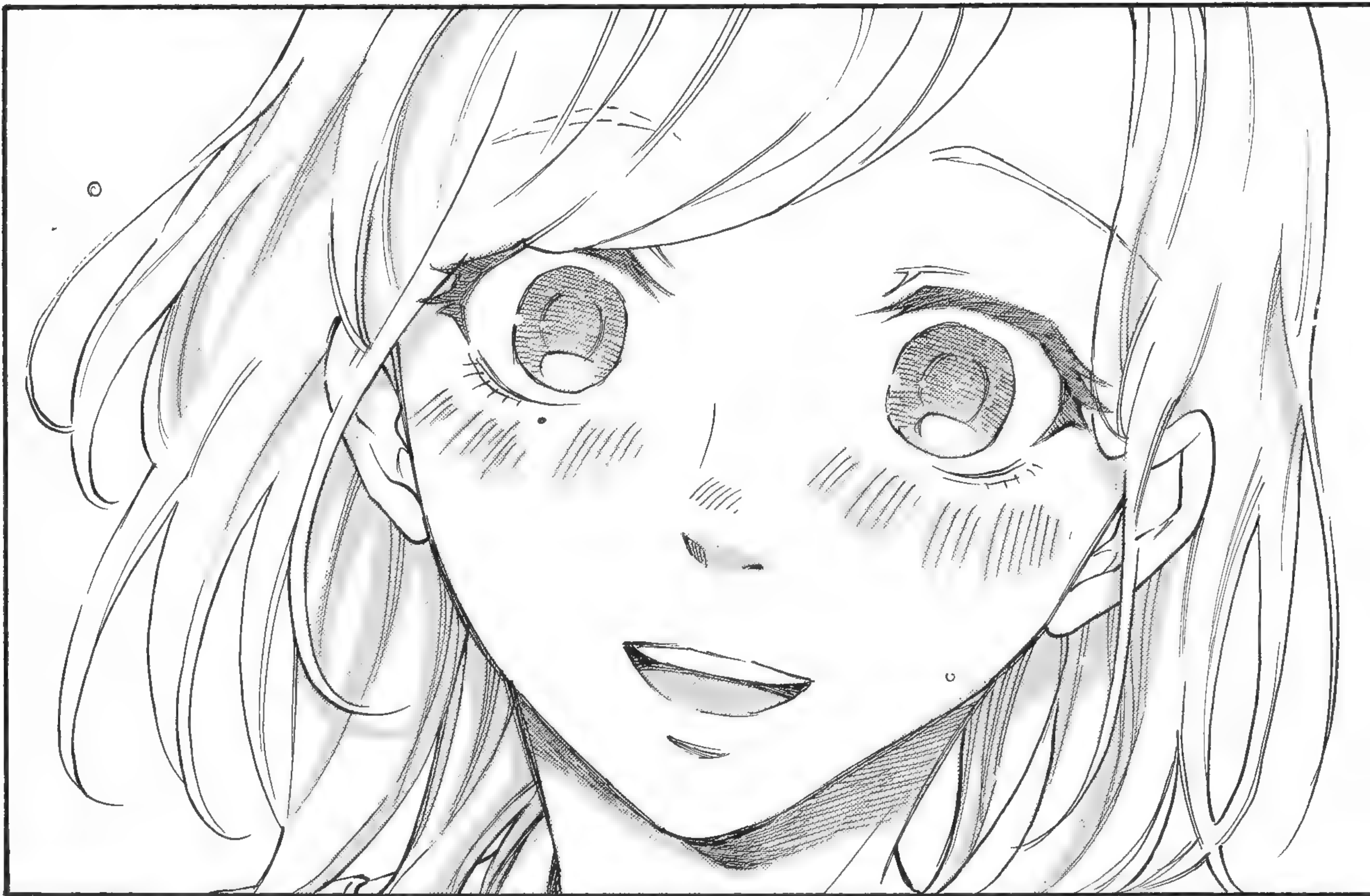


TOGETHER.



...IF WE
CAN
FIND A
PLACE
WORTH
GOING.

THEN
LET'S
SEE...



OKAY!

Complex age.

REGULAR STAFF

RANA SATŌ
NAGOMU HARAGUCHI
AENA MIYASATO
YŌKO

EDITOR

KŌJI TERAYAMA
NATSUMI ŌMICHİ

DESIGNER

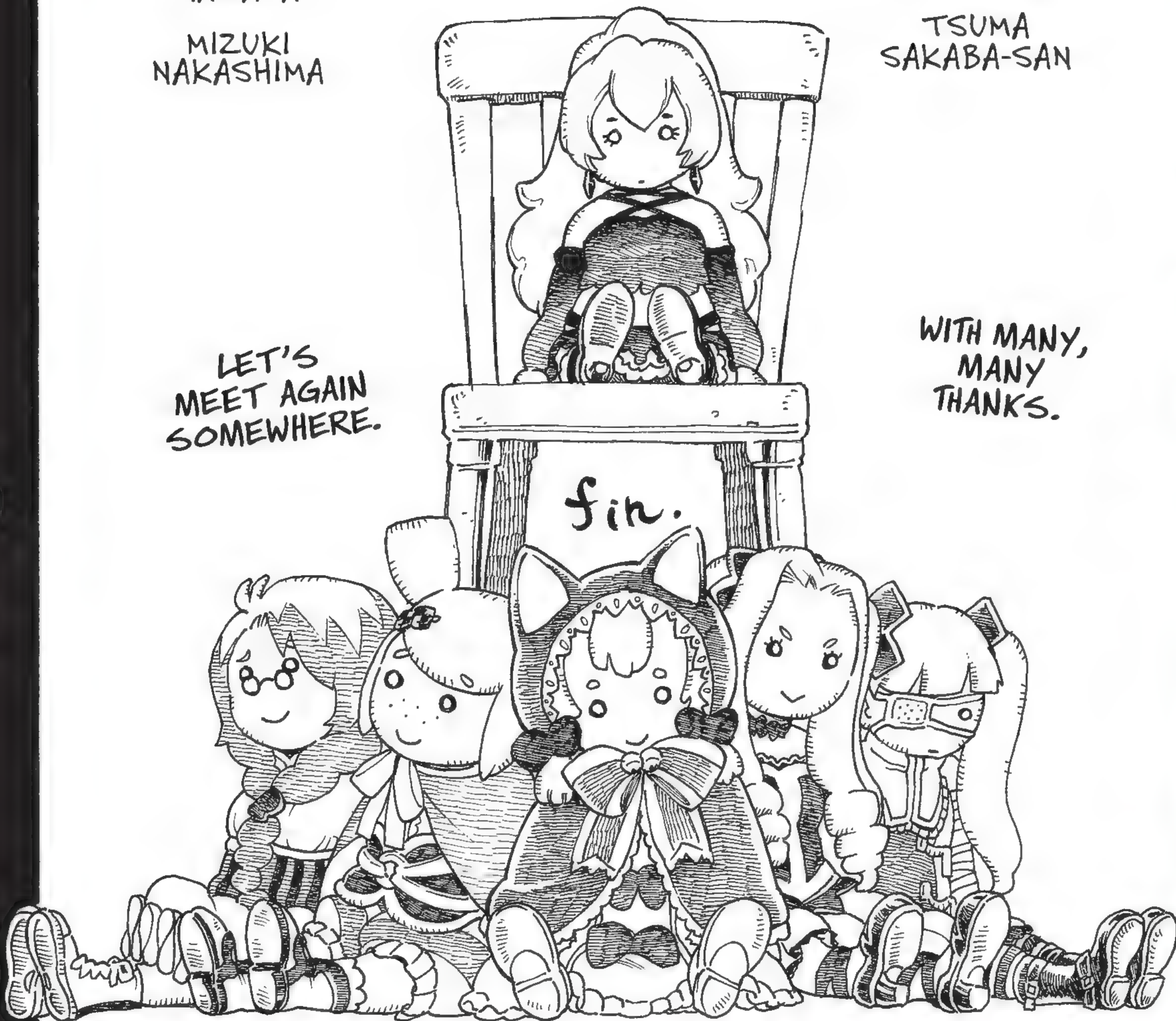
KŌHEI
NAWATA
MIZUKI
NAKASHIMA

SPECIAL THANKS

TSUMA
SAKABA-SAN

LET'S
MEET AGAIN
SOMEWHERE.

WITH MANY,
MANY
THANKS.



Cospedia

[GLOSSARY OF COSPLAY TERMS]

Supervisor: **コスプレイモード**
COPLAY MOOD



The cosplay magazine that has taken over the reins of Cosmode magazine, which ran until spring 2014. It publishes everything related to cosplay, including pinup photos, fan-submitted cosplay photos, and information on costumes, makeup, photography, armor and prop building, and cosplay culture. Released on the 3rd of every even-numbered month. (Published by Famima.com)

► Page 23

Shimokitazawa

There are numerous store-lined streets in



a part of a store. Many people rent places through personal connections, but there are also stores that will rent out a few square decimeters, and internet services such as Nokisaki.com that will match renters and leasers.

n.45

► Page 46

"That's amazing, Aya-chan! You're in a magazine!"

Appearing in cosplay magazines, game magazines, anime magazines, etc. is a type

► Page 19

Antique Shop

A shop that deals in old furniture, old artwork, etc. A United States tariff act from 1934 defines an antique as "crafts, handicrafts, and works of art which were produced 100 or more years ago," and this definition has been adopted by the WTO (World Trade Organization). Incidentally, items that are fewer than 100 years old are referred to as "vintage" or "junk."

n.44

► Page 29

"I'm renting the space out to other people."

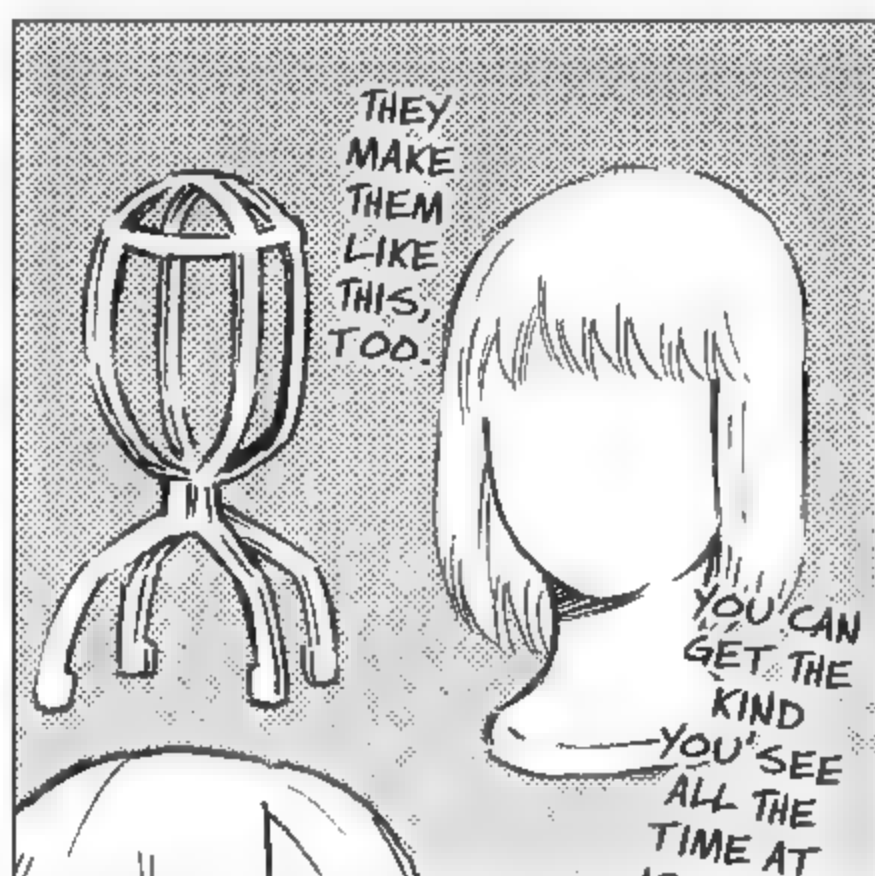
For those who want to perform retail on a small scale, there is great merit in renting

display in the store fronts of retail stores, department stores, etc. The job doesn't require any special qualifications, but very few people jump into it with no experience. To use the apparel industry as an example, generally someone will get a job at a department store or shop, then, after gaining experience as a salesperson, they will become a buyer.

► Page 51

Wig stand

A product for storing wigs without flattening them. They are used to prevent tangles during storage, as well as for styling the hair. They come



n.43

► Page 10

"A lot of enthusiasts my age wear kimono."

Japanese goth is coming into its own as a subgenre of gothic lolita (see Volume 2: Gothic Lolita), combining traditional Japanese style with gothic lolita. There's also the combination of Japanese style clothing and standard lolita, Japanese Loli. In March 2013, there was a Kaga-Loli fashion show, featuring traditional Japanese crafts by artisans such as Yūzen Kaga.

the neighborhood surrounding Shimokitazawa Station. Each street has its own unique features, and contains many variety shops and secondhand clothing stores. The district at the south exit has an especially high concentration of fashion and accessory stores. There are also several theaters and music clubs, so it is also known as Tokyo's theater town. Every year in February, several theaters get together to hold the Shimokitazawa theater festival.

► Page 28

Buyer

The person who buys all the products that are on

in a variety of styles, ranging from the 1,000-yen variety to the Styrofoam heads that can be found at the 100-yen shops. It is also possible to make simple ones at home using plastic bottles, etc.

n.46

► Page 74

Yuzawaya

A store chain that deals in craft and art supplies, established in Kamata, Tokyo in October 1955. Not only

of status symbol among cosplayers, and many layers have been known to improve their skills with that goal in mind. When a layer's picture is published in a magazine, some will post a picture of the page on their Twitter accounts or blogs.

► Page 50

Vacuum storage bags

A product that allows for compact storage of blankets and clothes by removing air from the bag. Some have a valve that lets the user suck the air out with a vacuum cleaner, while others have a check valve so the user can push the air out by hand. But a layer must be careful, because compressing

The common practice is to include a photography ticket as an extra to go with purchases. When an attendee uses the photography ticket, he or she can take a picture of the layer at the event.

n.47

► Page 84
Circle

Short for *dōjin* circle. A group of like-minded fans. Almost all circles are formed among close friends and acquaintances. Once a



► Page 79
Cos Rom Market

Events for selling CD(DVD)-ROM discs of cosplay photos and videos. The many events are divided into the target age groups of all ages, R-15, and R-18. As the target age goes up, the amount of fabric in the costumes has a tendency to go down, but if taken too far, sales will be prohibited.



Sign: Yuzawaya

are these costumes lacking in durability, they come with other problems, such as the inability to go through the wash. Generally it is considered uncool to have visible tape on a costume, but when a layer's main goal is a studio photo shoot, the tape can be erased using Photoshop (see Volume 4: Photoshop).

n.49

► Page 123
Cosplay Cabaret Club

An establishment whose employees wear maid uniforms or character cosplay outfits while offering the same services as at ordinary cabaret clubs. Many of

talents who started out as cosplay models and went on to become celebrities. On the other side of the spectrum, there has been a dramatic increase in cases where students or otherwise employed people will be appointed as cosplay staff for a company as a part-time job.

► Page 90
"I see your tape."

By using packing tape, double-stick tape, staplers, etc., it is possible to construct a costume without a sewing machine, and in a shorter period of time. However, not only

group decides on a circle name, cosplay names (see Volume 1: Nagi-san!), and genre, they can make books and other goods to sell and participate in cosplay events as a circle.

► Page 87
Layer Model

Commonly known as a cosplay model. A professional cosplayer that works for a talent agency, and is expected to get as close to *kan-cos* ("perfect cosplay," see Volume 1: I am perfect) as possible for any character. There are also cosplay

► Page 151
"The dress took a lot of fabric."

Because many wedding dresses have very long skirts with two or more layers, they require a substantial amount of fabric. Incidentally, the gown that appears in this manga has what is called an Empire waist. Because the skirt falls from just under the bust, it easily hides the contours of the wearer's lower body to produce a natural look.

grilled beef tongue was first served in Japan in Sendai in 1948, when Keishirō Sano, the founder of the Tasuke, was inspired by the beef tongue in Western cuisine and served it in his own restaurant.

► Page 144
"Nagi-shi!!"

The honorific *-shi* is mainly used for men, and is attached to a name as a term of respect. It is basically used only in writing, but there are people who use it in speech. It often appears in anime and manga as a very "otaku" way of addressing people.

them will sing karaoke anime or idol songs, and at some clubs, the employees and customers will dance along with the song.

n.50

► Page 143
Sendai beef tongue

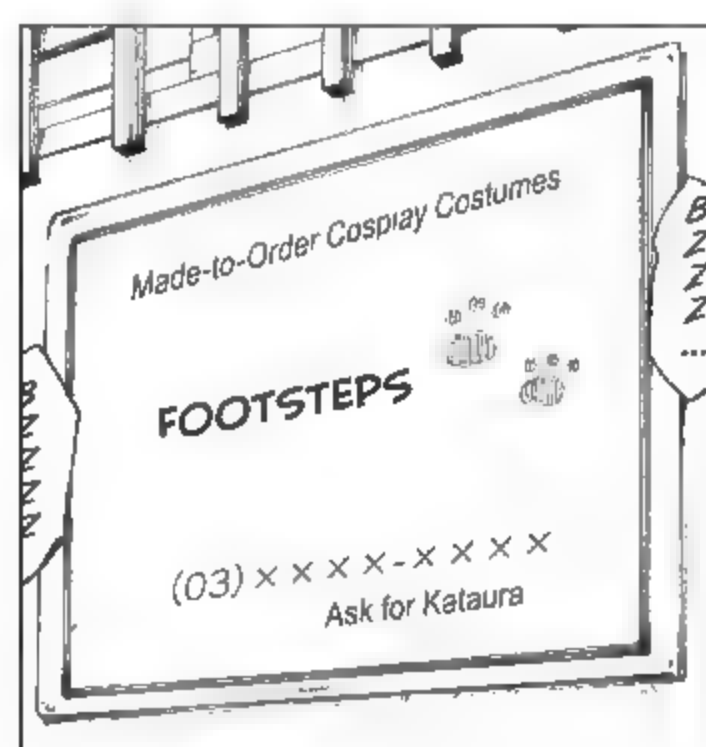
Grilled *gyūtan*, or beef tongue, a Sendai delicacy. It is believed that



Sign: Cosplay Cabaret Club ♥ NyaCos

► Page 169
Official License

Obtaining official legal permission to use characters from an anime or manga. In many cases, the licensing fee (royalties) is 3-5% of the sales price.



► Page 167
Fashion School

A school that specializes in fashion. Not only do students learn basic design concepts such as the production process, materials, color coordination, and sewing, but depending on the course, they can learn a wide range of other subjects, including makeup techniques, how to design accessories such as bags and hats, and how to be a buyer.

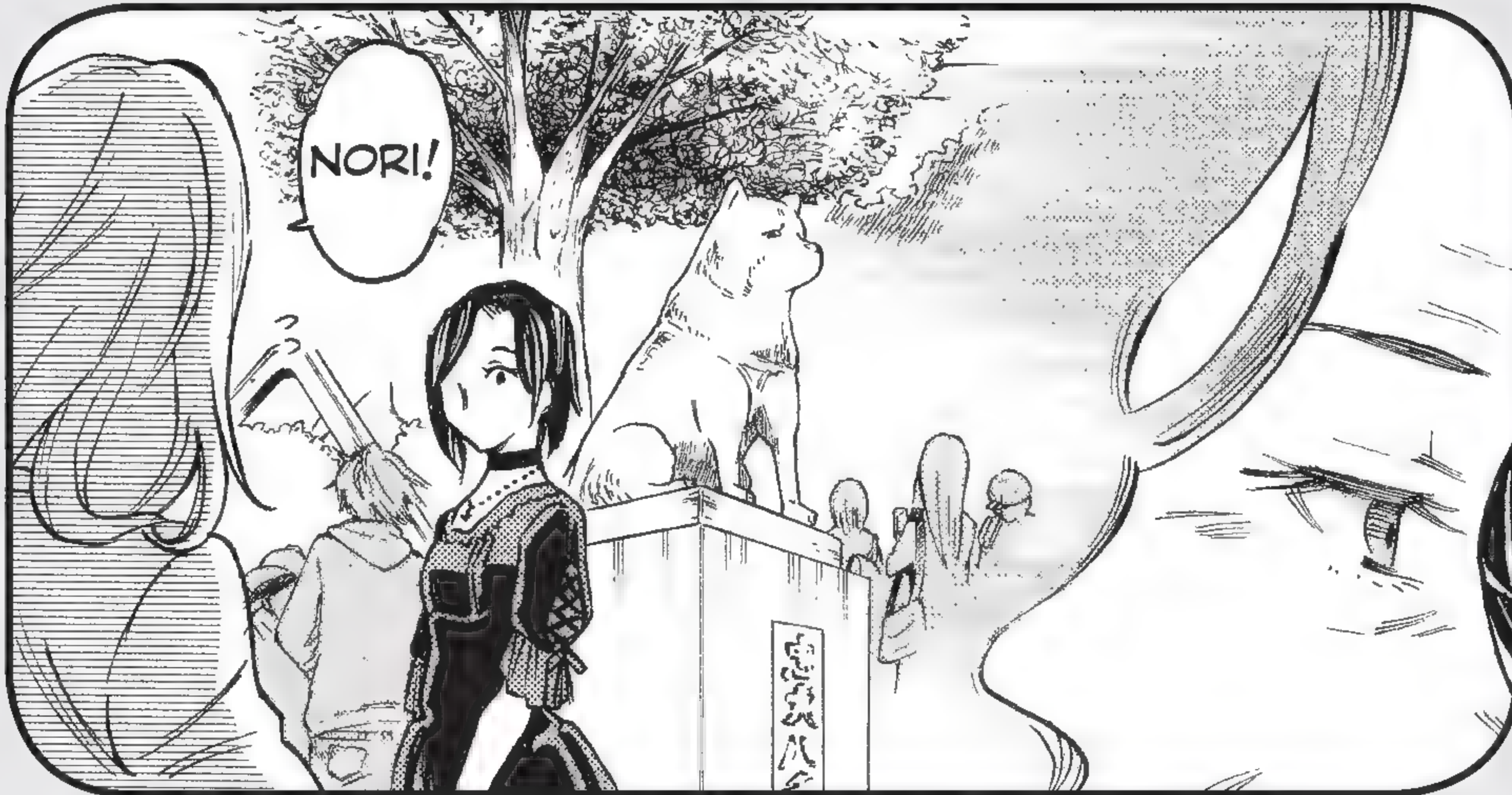
n.51

► Page 164
Made-to-Order Cosplay Costumes

Cosplay costumes that are made to order using anime, manga, etc. as reference. They are more expensive than store-bought costumes, but feature the abilities to choose size and fabric, and to obtain costumes for minor or original characters. In many cases, in addition to communicating with the seamstress via email and telephone, the customer can meet her in person to discuss the order.

Translation Notes





LOYAL HACHIKO

This famous statue in Shibuya is dedicated to the loyal dog Hachiko, who came to the train station to wait for his master's arrival every day. When his master passed away while at work, and failed to arrive at the station, Hachiko waited, and returned to the station every day at the same time for nine years until his own death. In honor of his faithfulness, he has been immortalized as a bronze statue, which has become a popular spot to meet up with friends for a day in Shibuya.



HARAJUKU AND OMOTESANDO

Both of the places Nagisa mentions are districts in Tokyo that are known for attracting the fashion-conscious. They are home to several big brand-name stores, as opposed to Shimokitazawa, which features mostly small, independent shops.



SAVING SPACE

Early spring is cherry blossom season in Japan, and everyone goes outside for a picnic to enjoy their beauty. So many people, in fact, that the parks are packed, and finding a place to lay out one's picnic can be quite a challenge. Aya and Shiho apologize for their lack of experience, which allowed them to find only a very small space.



TAKE SOME TURMERIC

Turmeric is believed to be effective in preventing hangovers because it improves liver function. In fact, there is even a drink called *Ukon no Chikara* (the power of turmeric) which is specially designed for this purpose. However, Nagisa's coworker doesn't appear to be holding a drink, so she may be referring to simple turmeric.



LIFE GOES ON

This is a reference to a poem by Takuboku Ishikawa, which translates roughly to:

I work and I work,
And then I work even more, but my life goes on, never any easier.
I merely stare at my hands.

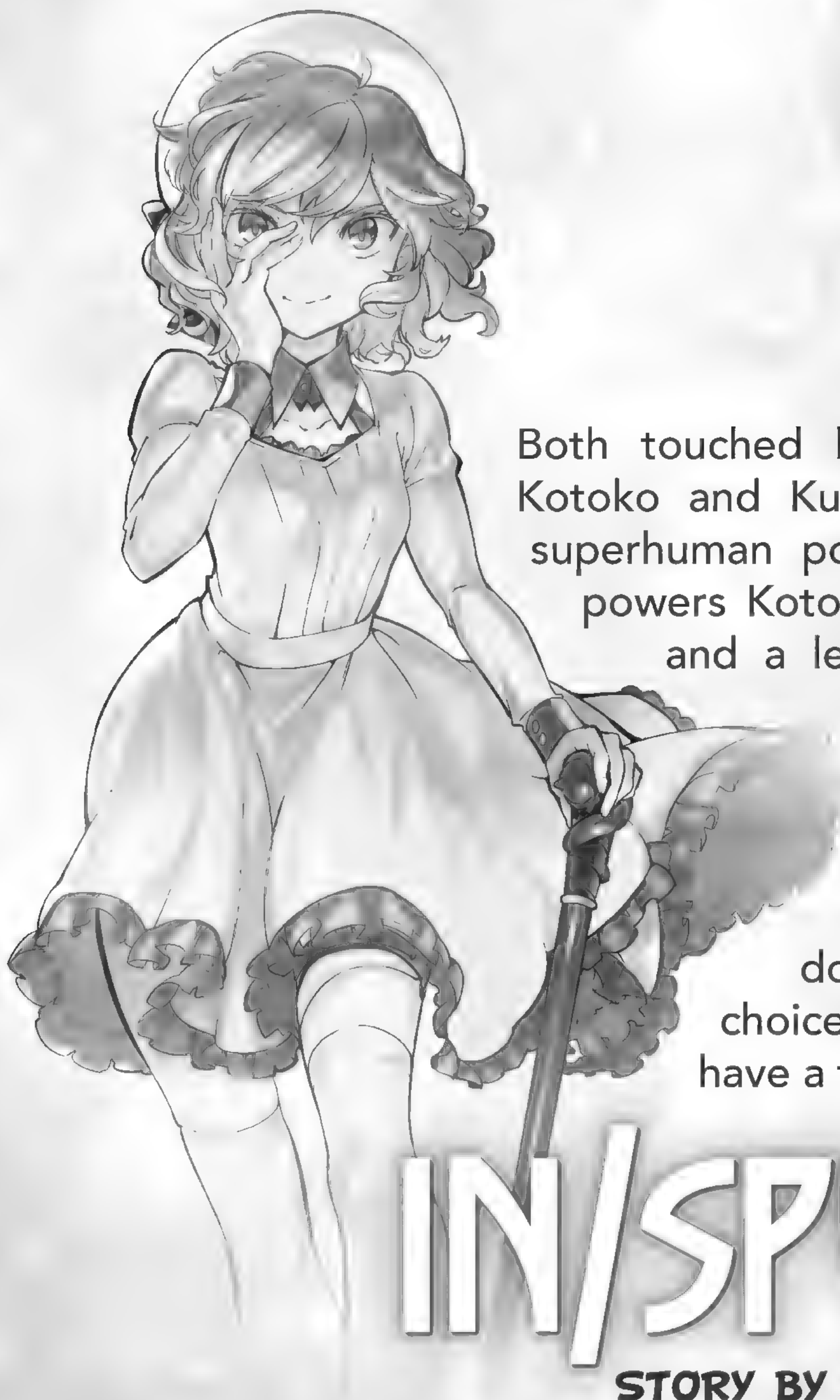
The poem is the lament of a man who, although he works all the time, never manages to earn enough money to improve his situation.

Complex Age.6



Japan's most
powerful spirit
medium delves
into the ghost
world's greatest
mysteries!

Story by Kyo
Shirodaira, famed
author of mystery
fiction and creator of
Spiral, *Blast of Tempest*,
and *The Record of a
Fallen Vampire*.



Both touched by spirits called yōkai, Kotoko and Kurō have gained unique superhuman powers. But to gain her powers Kotoko has given up an eye and a leg, and Kurō's personal life is in shambles. So when Kotoko suggests they team up to deal with renegades from the spirit world, Kurō doesn't have many other choices, but Kotoko might just have a few ulterior motives...

IN/SPECTRE

STORY BY KYO SHIRODAIRA
ART BY CHASHIBA KATASE

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"I'm pleasantly surprised to find modern shojo using cross-dressing as a dramatic device to deliver social commentary... Recommended."

-Otaku USA Magazine

The prince in his dark days

By Hico Yamanaka

A drunkard for a father, a household of poverty... For 17-year-old Atsuko, misfortune is all she knows and believes in. Until one day, a chance encounter with Itaru-the wealthy heir of a huge corporation-changes everything. The two look identical, uncannily so. When Itaru curiously goes missing, Atsuko is roped into being his stand-in. There, in his shoes, Atsuko must parade like a prince in a palace. She encounters many new experiences, but at what cost...?

"Parasyte fans should get a kick out of the chance to revisit Iwaaki's weird, violent, strangely affecting universe. Recommended." -Otaku USA Magazine

"A great anthology containing an excellent variety of genres and styles." -Manga Bookshelf

Based on the critically acclaimed classic horror manga

The first new *Parasyte* manga in
over 20 years!

NEO PARASYTE

BY ASUMIKO NAKAMURA, EMA TOYAMA, MIKI RINNO, LALAKO KOJIMA, KAORI YUKI,
BANKO KUZE, YUUKI OBATA, KASHIO, YUI KUROE, ASIA WATANABE, MIKIMAKI,
HIKARU SURUGA, HAJIME SHINJO, RENJURO KINDAICHI, AND YURI NARUSHIMA

A collection of chilling new *Parasyte* stories from Japan's top shojo artists!

Parasites: shape-shifting aliens whose only purpose is to assimilate with and consume the human race... but do these monsters have a different side? A parasite becomes a prince to save his romance-obsessed female host from a dangerous stalker. Another hosts a cooking show, in which the real monsters are revealed. These and 13 more stories, from some of the greatest shojo manga artists alive today, together make up a chilling, funny, and entertaining tribute to one of manga's horror classics!

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KC
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COMICS



The Black Museum *The* Ghost and the Lady

By Kazuhiro Fujita

Deep in Scotland Yard in London sits an evidence room dedicated to the greatest mysteries of British history. In this “Black Museum” sits a misshapen hunk of lead—two bullets fused together—the key to a wartime encounter between Florence Nightingale, the mother of modern nursing, and a supernatural Man in Grey. This story is unknown to most scholars of history, but a special guest of the museum will tell the tale of The Ghost and the Lady...

Praise for Kazuhiro Fujita’s *Ushio and Tora*

“A charming revival that combines a classic look with modern depth and pacing... **Essential viewing both for curmudgeons and new fans alike.**” — Anime News Network

“**GREAT!** The first episode of *Ushio and Tora* captures the essence of '90s anime.” — IGN

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KC
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COMICS

A new series from the creator of *Soul Eater*, the megahit manga and anime seen on Toonami!

"Fun and lively...
a great start!"
-Adventures in
Poor Taste

FIRE FORCE

By Atsushi Ohkubo

The city of Tokyo is plagued by a deadly phenomenon: spontaneous human combustion! Luckily, a special team is there to quench the inferno: The Fire Force! The fire soldiers at Special Fire Cathedral 8 are about to get a unique addition. Enter Shinra, a boy who possesses the power to run at the speed of a rocket, leaving behind the famous "devil's footprints" (and destroying his shoes in the process). Can Shinra and his colleagues discover the source of this strange epidemic before the city burns to ashes?

The award-winning manga about what happens inside you!

“Far more entertaining than it ought to be... what kid doesn't want to think that every time they sneeze a torpedo shoots out their nose?”

—Anime News Network

A black and white illustration of two characters from the manga Cells at Work!. On the left is a tall, muscular male character with spiky hair, wearing a cap with the Japanese characters '白血球' (Leukocyte) on it, a tactical vest, and a belt. On the right is a shorter, female character with long hair, wearing a cap with '赤血球' (Erythrocyte) on it, a dark jacket, and a skirt. She is holding a large, open box. Both characters are looking towards the viewer.

Strep throat! Hay fever! Influenza! The world is a dangerous place for a red blood cell just trying to get her deliveries finished. Fortunately, she's not alone...she's got a whole human body's worth of cells ready to help out! The mysterious white blood cells, the buff and brash killer T cells, even the cute little platelets—everyone's got to come together if they want to keep you healthy!

Cells at Work!

はたらく細胞

H A P P I N E S S

——ハピネス——

By Shuzo Oshimi

From the creator of *The Flowers of Evil*

Nothing interesting is happening in Makoto Ozaki's first year of high school. His life is a series of quiet humiliations: low-grade bullies, unreliable friends, and the constant frustration of his adolescent lust. But one night, a pale, thin girl knocks him to the ground in an alley and offers him a choice. Now everything is different. Daylight is searingly bright. Food tastes awful. And worse than anything is the terrible, consuming thirst...

Praise for Shuzo Oshimi's *The Flowers of Evil*

"A shockingly readable story that vividly—one might even say queasily—evokes the fear and confusion of discovering one's own sexuality. Recommended." —The Manga Critic

"A page-turning tale of sordid middle school blackmail." —Otaku USA Magazine

"A stunning new horror manga." —Third Eye Comics



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© Hiroyuki Takei/Kodansha Ltd. All rights reserved.

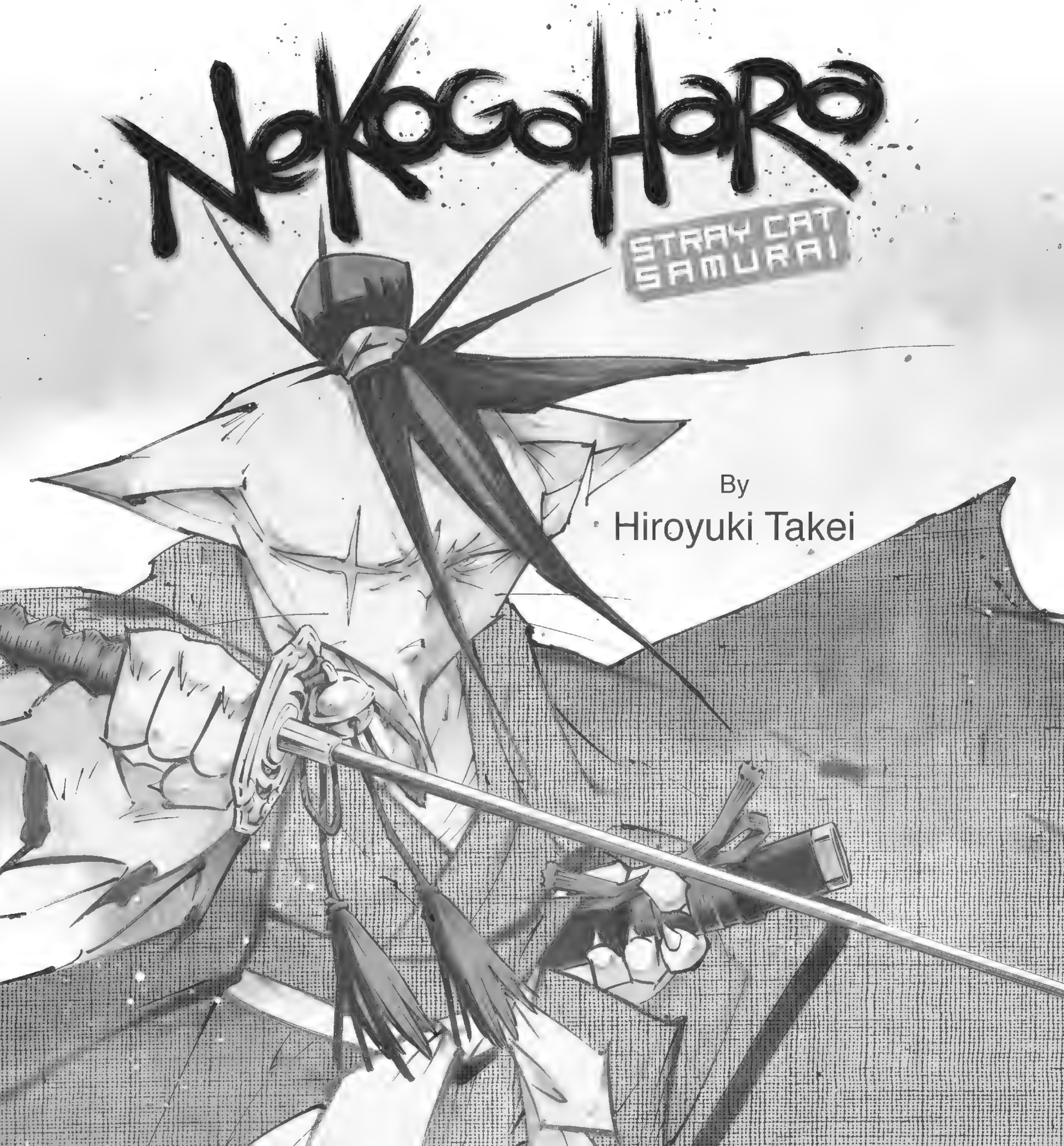
New action series from Hiroyuki Takei, creator of the classic shonen franchise Shaman King!

In medieval Japan, a bell hanging on the collar is a sign that a cat has a master. Norachiyo's bell hangs from his katana sheath, but he is nonetheless a stray — a ronin. This one-eyed cat samurai travels across a dishonest world, cutting through pretense and deception with his blade.

Nekkogatahara

STRAY CAT
SAMURAI

By
Hiroyuki Takei



Having lost his wife, high school teacher Kōhei Inuzuka is doing his best to raise his young daughter Tsumugi as a single father. He's pretty bad at cooking and doesn't have a huge appetite to begin with, but chance brings his little family together with one of his students, the lonely Kotori. The three of them are anything but comfortable in the kitchen, but the healing power of home cooking might just work on their grieving hearts.

"This season's number-one feel-good anime!" —Anime News Network

"A beautifully-drawn story about comfort food and family and grief. Recommended." —Otaku USA Magazine



sweetness & lightning

By Gido Amagakure

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KODANSHA
COMICS

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"An emotional and artistic tour de force! We see incredible triumph, and crushing defeat... each panel [is] a thrill!"
—Anitay

"A journey that's instantly compelling."
—Anime News Network

WELCOME TO THE BALLROOM

By Tomo Takeuchi

Feckless high school student Tatara Fujita wants to be good at something—anything. Unfortunately, he's about as average as a slouchy teen can be. The local bullies know this, and make it a habit to hit him up for cash, but all that changes when the debonair Kaname Sengoku sends them packing. Sengoku's not the neighborhood watch, though. He's a professional ballroom dancer. And once Tatara Fujita gets pulled into the world of ballroom, his life will never be the same.



Complex Age 6

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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